DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 194 195 PS 011 786

TITLE White House Conference on Families: Summary of State Reports. Volume Two.
INSTITUTION White House Conference on Families, Washington, D.C.
PUB DATE 80
NOTE 156p.; For related documents, see PS 011 783-791. Best copy available.

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC07 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS Conferences; Day Care; *Economic Status; Education; *Family (Sociological Unit); *Family Problems; *Government Role; Mass Media; Needs Assessment; Policy Formation; Position Papers; *Social Services
IDENTIFIERS *Minnesota (Minneapolis); *White House Conference on Families

ABSTRACT

This compilation contains the verbatim texts of recommendations made by states' delegates from 11 midwest and southern states participating in the Minneapolis regional conference of the White House Conference on Families. The recommendations are organized by topic for each of the individual states. Topics include the following as related to the family: education; marriage; health; child care; the law; housing; the role of government; the elderly; crises in relationships; the workplace; financial policy; energy; the media; religion; social services; community resources; the parenting role; the rights of children and youth; changing social roles; crisis intervention; and inflation. States participating in the Minneapolis conference were Arkansas, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, Tennessee, West Virginia, Wisconsin. (Author/SS)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

White House Conference on FAMILIES

ED194195

U S DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY

SUMMARY

of

STATE REPORTS

PS011786

Volume Two

FILMED FROM
BEST COPY AVAILABLE

BALTIMORE • MINNEAPOLIS • LOS ANGELES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

ARKANSAS

Page

The Role of Education in American Family Life..... 1

Keeping Families Well at a Price They Can Afford..... 5

Policies and Programs to Help Children..... 8

Balancing the Demands of Workplace and Family..... 16

Society's Response to Family Crisis..... 19

Designing Laws to Protect and Strengthen Families..... 22

Decent Housing: A Necessity for Family Life..... 26

Quality Child Care as a Family Support..... 30

Government: Friend or Foe to Families..... 36

Options for the Oldest Members of the Family..... 43

ILLINOIS

Children and Parents..... 46

Quality of Education..... 47

Family, School, and Community Involvement in Education..... 48

Education..... 49

Marriage..... 50

Health..... 52

Child Care..... 55

Law..... 57

Families and the Workplace..... 59

Special Challenges..... 60

Financial Policy..... 65

IOWA Page

Families and Economics..... 68

Families and Education..... 68

Families and Energy..... 69

Families and Health..... 69

Families and Government..... 70

Families and Law..... 70

Families and Media..... 71

Families and Religion..... 71

Families and Social Services..... 72

Families and the Workplace..... 72

KENTUCKY

Families and Income..... 74

Families and the Workplace..... 76

Growth and Care of the Family..... 77

Families and Special Challenges..... 80

Families and Crises..... 83

Families and Health..... 86

Families and Maternal/Infant Care..... 89

Families and Child Care..... 90

Families and Major Institutions..... 93

Families and Community Resources..... 96

LOUISIANA 97

MINNESOTA — Page

Religion, Moral Issues and Values: A Framework and/or Family Decisions..... 98, 109

Diversity in Family Forms and Circumstances..... 99

The Parenting Role..... 100

Supportive Interventions and the Family Under Stress..... 101, 109, 110

The Roles, Rights and Responsibilities of Children, Youth, and Young Adults..... 102

Promotion of Healthy Families Through Community and Educational Resources..... 104

Aging, Retirement, and Extended Life Expectations..... 105

Family Health..... 105

Work, Income and Families..... 106, 109

Family Housing..... 107

MISSISSIPPI

Family and Children..... 111

Family and the Economy..... 111

The Family and the Environment..... 111

Impact of the Government on Families..... 112

The Family and the Law..... 112

The Family and Mass Media..... 113

The Family and Social Concerns..... 113

Family and Changing Social Roles..... 113

Family and Spiritual Values..... 113

Changing Family Patterns..... 114

MISSOURI Page

Children and Parents..... 115

Preventive Programming vs. Crisis Intervention..... 116

Education..... 117

Comprehensive Health Care Services..... 118

Government..... 119

Child Care..... 120

Familes and the Workplace..... 121

Special Challenges..... 122

Inadequate Income..... 123

Elderly Family Members..... 124

OHIO..... 125

TENNESSEE

Inflation..... 128

Family Crises..... 128

Marriage/Children and Parents..... 128

Education..... 129

Child Care..... 129

Care of the Elderly..... 129

Government, Local, State, Federal..... 129

WEST VIRGINIA Page

Poverty..... 131

Employment..... 132
142

Health..... 133
143

Housing..... 135
142

Growth and Care of Children and Youth..... 136

Family Crises..... 137

Social Services..... 138
142

Child Care..... 139

Growth and Care of Adult and Aged..... 140

What is a Family?..... 141
143

Law..... 143

Education..... 142
143

WISCONSIN

Respect for Diverse Families..... 144

Integration of Workplace and Family..... 144

Expanding Family Education..... 145

Family and Community Interaction..... 145

Law and the Family..... 146

Families and Public/Media Awareness..... 146

Maximizing Helping Services..... 147

White House Conference on FAMILIES

INTRODUCTION

Unlike previous Conferences the White House Conference on Families is taking its issues directly from the reports of state activities. This book contains the verbatim text of recommendations from states whose delegates will attend the White House Conference in Minneapolis. Other volumes which contain the reports from states attending the White House Conferences in Baltimore and Los Angeles will be available at the Minneapolis Conference. The size of all these reports prevents us from mailing the other two volumes to you but they will be available at the Minneapolis Conference.

We thought it would be essential to share with you the results of these state activities because they represent the hard work and best efforts of thousands upon thousands of Americans who chose to spend a weekend or day in a high school gymnasium or college campus preparing for the WHCF. They spent long hours discussing some of the key problems facing American families and developing recommendations to address those problems. These recommendations are not the result of some prestigious task force or committee. They are not always tidy or perfectly written. But they do represent the concerns of real families and attempts to reach a consensus position. For these reasons, they are far more eloquent and valuable and they hold great promise of leading to real action.

Format

Many state reports came to the WHCF beautifully bound and full of impressive documentation of their state activities. You will not find these descriptions in this volume. It contains in their most simple form the recommendations of the states without editing, summarizing or comments by the WHCF. We simply took the reports and reprinted them for your use. Time, volume, and financial restraints prevented us from even re-typing them. For reasons of length, minority reports or other additions to the recommendations are not reprinted, but will be on file at the Resource Room at the Conference facility. States which have minority reports on file are indicated by an asterisk (*). The Table of Contents reports the topics covered by the states in their own words. It should be a useful tool in locating recommendations which

will be dealt with in particular workgroups. Some states sent no issues report, partial reports, or reports so massive that they cannot be included in this volume. We continue to work with these states and hope to have their final reports available at the Conferences.

I urge you to read these recommendations with care. They represent the hopes, concerns and hard won agreements of thousands of Americans.

Jim Guy Tucker
Chairperson
White House Conference
on Families

TOPIC: The Role of Education in American Family Life

ISSUE: In what ways can we lessen the control of the Federal Government and give more control to the local authorities (schools)?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Return local school boards to a rightful position of authority over the school district.

2. Lower federal taxes so this money can be applied as local taxing to support schools on a local level.

3. School policies to be governed by the wishes of the local school patrons within constitutional guidelines.

4. Increase the involvement of parents/guardians in the total local educational process.

5. Control flows from money in our system today. We must learn our dependence on federal monies and look to a more equitable system of funding education within each state. We must recognize the proper function of educational institutions and not try to use them to accomplish political and social goals. Let them concentrate on what they were originally designed to do.

6. Total monies controlled and collected by the local districts, plus all authority and policy of school be at local level.

7. Defining local authorities to mean parents, community leaders and school personnel.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. School districts be divided into areas. The number of members on the board to be made of one member from each area.

2. School districts be composed of an area that is accessible for every child to be transported, if necessary, to a central location thereby saving energy, time and upkeep of buses.

TOPIC: The Role of Education in American Family Life

ISSUE: How can we best instill in today's youth a respect for and understanding of the American heritage and patriotism?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Pride and respect for country should be taught in our schools at every grade level.

2. Patrons should show support for this policy adoption by contacting their school officials.

3. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag should be required. The whole program of education and history should be patriotic.

4. Patriotism/Heritage.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Teaching of pride and respect should be urged by patron to be adopted as policy of the school district.

2. Such policy should be implemented into the curriculum by way of daily participation in the Pledge of Allegiance, our National Antnem and other patriotic literature.

3. Have this supplement in history and civic classes.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Patrons should contact school officials and urge this policy of respect and pride taught in school.

2. Have the Pledge each week, write paper, have PTA programs, use music to do this too.

ISSUE: In what ways can sex education, if taught, be supportive of parents' values and morals?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Education in this area is responsibility of the home, church, and school.

2. On a local basis, parents and other interested individuals and groups must be involved in every level of planning and decision-making and implementation of any public school sex education program.

3. Sexuality education is needed and proper for public school involvement from grades K through 12.

4. Every child has the need and right to learn how the human body is made and functions.

5. All aspects of sexuality that are asked by students deserve to be dealt with in one setting or another.

6. Information, properly taught, doesn't irresponsibly stimulate - it educates!

7. Parents always retain the power to forbid their child(ren)'s involvement in public school sex education.

8. Sex education never be taught through public schools.

9. If sex education is taught, no program should be begun without prior notification and approval of parents whose children are involved and no such program should ever be a required course.

10. Control of sex program curriculum should be kept at local control and if such program is not approved as part of the school's program, then that school should be protected from the withdrawal of federal funds or any other federal pressure.

11. Values clarification techniques or any type of program that does enforce relativism be excluded from any sex education curriculum.

12. No program should be begun without prior notification and approval of parents.

13. Values clarification techniques should be excluded.

14. Also, the sex education program should be supported by the school board and administration.

15. Sex education should not teach moral conduct.

16. Make sure parents (individually) know when sex education will be taught to their child - also show the parent what will be taught.

17. No sex education should be compulsory. Should not be entwined in health or science.

18. Train young parents by qualified trained family counselors using available buildings during the day and evening classes.

19. This should come from parents, not teachers as teachers can only teach what they are and that includes moral value clarification. We should educate teachers to teach parent programs and then let parents teach students.

20. Teach a health sex education program involving parents, educator, religious leader.

21. Any sex education should be decided at local level only whether to be taught or not. No federal pressures should be brought upon the school district in view of decision such as withdrawal of funds or withholding of funds.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Wider availability of sexuality education curricula options to school and community groups.

2. Establish "minimum awareness of human sexual physiology" standards for various public school grades.

3. Establish procedure for a student to "test out" (from home and/or church instruction) of basic minimal sex knowledge [see #2 above].

4. Before any child is exposed to sex education, a note or letter should be sent home informing the parent what will be taught in detail.

5. The parent must give permission before his child is exposed to any form of sex education.

6. Finance the program through existing school agency, incentives for teacher to train, and convenient to all.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Publicize "myths and facts" about adolescent sexuality and about public school sex education programs.

2. Provide materials for teachers and suggested activities, let the parents then teach their children, provide entire tax break for young parents for completing the training course. "Teachers teach what they are, not what they know."

3. The NEA endorses too many things that are not Christian, it would be better to keep this out of public schools.

4. Preview material with this program group and have groups devise program.

ISSUE: How can a program be developed at the state level that would allow parents a voice in the textbooks and reading material and curriculum adoption and prevent school advisors from counseling students about sexual matters without parental awareness?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. State and local agencies should be encouraged to provide for parental review of textbooks and curricula prior to their use in public school classrooms.

2. No program, project or entity shall provide any contraceptive device or abortion service (including abortion counseling) to an unmarried minor without prior notification of parents.

3. No sex education program should be taught in public schools without prior notification of parents whose children are involved.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. No funds authorized under any applicable federal program or any provision of federal law shall be made available to any state or local education agency which does not provide for parental review of textbooks and curricula prior to their use in public classrooms.

ISSUE: In what ways can we insure that humanism not be forced upon children in the schools without the Christian viewpoint also being taught?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Electiye courses in religion and morality should be taught by instructors who are chosen by parents.

2. State and local agencies should not limit the right of parents to have their child excused from studying subjects, reading assigned books or participating in any school activities that parents object to on religious, moral or other reasonable grounds.

3. Equal time shall be given in the classrooms to the teaching of the theories of evolution and creation.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. No funds authorized under any applicable federal program or any provision of federal law shall be made available to any state or local educational agency which does not have in place mechanisms or procedures to insure that public schools offer elective courses in religion and morality taught by instructors chosen by parents. Any such mechanisms shall include provisions for conditioning student enrollment in such courses on parental consent to such enrollment.

TOPIC: Keeping Families Well at a Price They Can Afford

ISSUE: What can we do to promote health education, integrated health services and change attitudes so that people become their own primary health care advocates?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. A school program of comprehensive health care education and parenting be implemented K-12.

2. Arkansas require all pharmacists label all prescriptions (name - strength).

3. FCC require PSA in prime time regarding health care.

4. Education of health providers include emphasis on prevention.

5. Health education programs for elderly.

6. Ombudsmen for service referral and in-WATS set up in Arkansas.

7. Information and service referral for coordination.

8. Provide comprehensive health education (including mental health) in the formal education system and through a broad based public information campaign.

9. Advocate "Wellness" program.

10. Propose passage of a law requiring the use of child restraint devices in motor vehicles.

11. Establish a licensure requirement for Mo-Peds and mandate helment use.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. a. Propose state legislation for comprehensive health education in public schools.

b. Promote health maintenance opportunities at work places.

c. Encourage media to provide health care information.

2. a. Utilize state agencies to advocate and implement "wellness" programs.

b. Promote "wellness" concept with the media.

c. Incorporate wellness concept in all health, mental health and rehabilitation plans including provisions to incorporate concept in state-let contracts with the private sector.

3. Implement information and referral service - start with Governor.

4. Implement by proposing state legislation.

5. Implement by proposing state legislation.

ISSUE: What specific areas can be addressed that would prevent the occurrence of illness, disease and accidents?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that:

1. Stricter enforcement of speed limit.

2. Seat belts and child restraints be required.

3. Laws regarding DWI be changed to be more stringent.

4. Individuals accept responsibility for prevention for themselves and family.

5. The nation and state eliminate environmental hazards.

6. Stricter enforcement of drug laws be mandated.

7. Immunization and screening at elementary school level for speech, vision, hearing, learning, etc. be continued and stepped up.

8. There be more neonatal and perinatal screening.

9. Incentives be increased for health care providers in rural areas. 7.

ISSUE: How do we establish and utilize support systems for handicapped, mentally ill, elderly, and their families to avoid institutionalization and to provide a richer home life?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Establish a community support system that is broad based, including external advocacy and that is adequately funded and staffed. Access to these community support systems should not be based on the financial status of the family or individual.

2. Enforce laws currently on books for these populations without forcing those for whom the laws were passed to take legal recourse.

3. Redesign current reimbursements systems to provide for delivery of services in the least restrictive settings.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. a. Actively advocate for passage of S1117 with its community support provisions as written in consensus language intact and design, legislate, fund and implement a similar program for physically handicapped.

b. Actively advocate (lobby) for appropriation at the authorization level for Title VII parts A and B - P.L. 95-602.

2. a. Inform law enforcement officials of what laws are.

b. Provide public education on laws.

c. Develop enforceable penalties for these laws.

3. a. Advocate changes in public and private "insurance" methods to provide minimum levels of service to serve clients and families.

ISSUE: How can we implement a family health insurance plan based on a nationally organized agency offering fair and standardized fees at affordable premium rates based on individual income?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Appointment of a committee by the delegates to the White House Conference to investigate the establishment of a private mutual insurance organization accessible to all children.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Collect data on types of insurance plans either in force or proposed.

2. Encourage pilot projects to test various plans identified in 1.

3. Seek funding for the above from private industries, institutions and foundations.

4. Seek funding from a combination of federal grants and private sources.

5. Collect data on the three major costs factors in health care, labor, construction and materials and increase the intensity of medical treatment by health care providers and consumers.

ISSUE: How can we effect the removal of financial blocks (private and public monies, third party payers, etc.) to the provision of prevention and primary care?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that:

1. Action be taken for reimbursement of preventive health care services as well as treatment services.

2. The individual accept primary responsibility for health care costs.

3. Public and health care carriers reimburse non-physician providers for preventive and primary care.

4. Arkansas examine alternate health care systems.

5. A comprehensive health care plan for catastrophic illness be developed.

TOPIC: Policies and Programs to Help Children

ISSUE: How can we best assure respect of parental authority and autonomy of the home when the rights of the child are at issue, and at the same time secure qualified legal counsel for children any time custody of the child is at issue?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Natual or adoptive parents have responsibilities and privilege of training, guidance and discipline of the child.

2. Initial thrust of intervention should be maintenance e.g. counseling, guidance, religious, mental health or any service towards preventions of placement.

3. Interventions should be for an individual's protection only and should not infringe on any person's legal rights.

4. Should guarantee qualified legal counseling for children any time custody of the child is at issue. 9.

5. Identify elements that deal specifically with alienation of parental-child relationships.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Public education of constitutional and parental rights.

2. Design - task force: representatives (1) parents of trans-cultural and socio-eco status; (2) elected officials charged with their duty - investigative process (data gathering)

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Implement the program through the media (all types) starting at the community level and building upward, via any groups that interact with the family on a community level, (e.g. religious or church organization, parent or teacher organization, health agencies, schools, civic clubs, businesses and business clubs, professional groups, professional clubs, unions and also local goverments, such as city and county).

2. Study all laws and legal precedents that are negative to family life (specifically those which affect unity and authority).

ISSUE: How can we encourage the family to be a cohesive unit a) rights, b) presentation in schools, c) focus the "system" on cohesiveness of families, d) possible programs for large family with low income?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Merge existing supporting services making them available and sensitive to families.

2. To deliniate and promote personal rights.

3. Encourage companies, labor and management, etc. to consider the needs of families in their organization such as counseling for families in trouble, day care centers for children of employees, parent training or training in interpers skills for employees.

4. Take away some of the legal binds that keep schools from referring without being forced to pay for it.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. An agency evaluates the family/client case as a multiproblem need.

2. A local group sponsor discussion and goal formulation for protection and promotion of family rights.

3. Training people to become more self-supporting so they can believe in themselves as a person through work incentives.

4. Teach interpersonal skills and courses oriented toward value training and in the schools and as early as possible.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. This agency makes an initial assessment of the variety of services available to meet the needs with input by family members. The individual/family is provided a program outline by an initial case management group and directed to appropriate existing services.

2. Sponsor convening conferences on community level on the delineation of rights that will strengthen all family units.

3. Each county should be mandated to have a domestic court with a qualified referee.

4. Children should have access to information that would help them cope.

ISSUE: What is the role of family, community, agencies and government in stressing prevention as well as intervention assuring that the best interest of the child is foremost?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Parental and child education.

2. Prevention of teen and unwanted pregnancies.

3. Families, community agencies and government design programs and policies that promote family cohesiveness.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Teach child development.

2. Reality education - good education does not necessarily mean child will achieve all their goals.

3. Improve educational system.

4. Parenting courses taught by community based groups (churches, civic organizations, etc) so no children can be taught facts in the house and not base their knowledge on "street language".

5. Education - counseling.

6. Service to prevent final disintegration of family.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Community input of educational process and material.

2. Family: a) family night where head of household teaches (spiritual - moral - historical), b) turn off TV, c) assume responsibility for teaching morals and values to children.

3. Church: a) teach only what the Bible teaches without adding or subtracting to or from it, b) outreach program for single parent families.

4. Other agencies: a) luncheon workshops for working mothers in family nutrition, health, safety, etc., b) courses in parenting, sex education, etc.

5. Government: a) abolish no-fault divorce, b) raise marriage age, c) required attendance at education classes prerequisite for welfare checks, d) impact aid to high-risk families, e) concentrate money and service to counseling for families in trouble.

ISSUE: (A) How should family be defined for purpose of government laws, policies and programs?

(B) How can we create the proper nurture of children and at the same time recognize the parent's responsibility?

(C) How can we strengthen the family so there is no need for government to assume control of our children after the disintegration of the family?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Family shall be defined as persons related by heterosexual marriage, blood or adoption.

2. a. Parents shall have all rights to moral training and character formation of their children.

b. Responsibility of parents to their children begins at point conception.

3. a. Encourage mothers with dependent children to stay home and rear their children.

b. Encourage fathers to take more time with their family as defined in #1.

c. Trend to "no fault" divorce laws shall be reversed.

4. Recommend adoption laws be changed to make it quicker for married heterosexuals to adopt children.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. All school programs and policies be governed by parents of their school districts.

2. a. Enforce Blue Laws.

b. We encourage the stricter enforcement of law against criminals.

3. We encourage the passage of laws against abortion to protect the unborn child.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Use local forms of communication to present and encourage the goals of this workshop.

2. To encourage mass media to upgrade moral quality of its programs.

3. Contact senators, representatives and other elected officials and relate our views and ideals.

ISSUE: What role should the family, community and government take in prevention of family disintegration and keep the best interest of the child foremost?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Recognizing that life begins at conception, abortion, like other forms of termination of human life, should be illegal.

2. That every child should have a permanent home.

3. The electronic media should be encouraged to present material that will enrich the child's mind and teach him about America's rich heritage.

4. That the traditional family unit, those related by blood, heterosexual marriage, or adoption, be upheld as the ideal.

5. That we as citizens become actively involved in church, community activities, local government, courts, law enforcement agencies, foster care, day care center.

6. Encourage non-profit organizations such as churches to set up foster care and counseling programs.

PROGRAM RECOMMEDATIONS:

1. a. Human life amendment to the U.S. Constitution should be passed in order to clear up the Supreme Court's legislative mandate regarding abortion.

b. If the child cannot stay in natural home or be adopted that a long term quality foster home be found.

2. a. That whenever possible a child should stay in the natural home and any intervention should support the home.

3. Encourage upgrading of FCC standards that will elminate immoral programming and violence.

4. a. That sex education be taken out of the public schools and placed back in the homes.

b. Value clarification courses should be removed from the public school curriculum.

c. Rejection of Equal Rights Amendment.

d. Homosexuality should not be taught to children as an alternative family life style.

e. The trend to no-fault divorce laws and ease of divorce should be reversed.

5. In order to have less government intervention, we as citizens must become actively involved in church, community activities, local government, court, law enforcements by: (see strategy).

6. Encourage communication between state agencies and voluntary organizations that are willing to offer assistance rather than further federal funding for necessary programs.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Contact representatives to vote for Human Life Amendment.

2. Have counseling and education programs available for families in trouble.

3. Contact local school boards on disapproval of sex education being taught in the public school.

4. a. To endorse organization such as the National Federation for Decency.

b. Individuals to take an active part in contacting networks, sponsors, and local stations regarding programming.

c. Boycott sponsors of questionable programs.

5. a. Churches become actively involved in community as a whole by providing financial aid, moral support to needy families with children.

b. Local neighborhoods uniting in a front to help churches, school-parent organizations, elected officials.

c. Election of qualified judges, representatives, senators, governors, school officials, city directors, etc.

d. Requesting local attorneys to aid in juvenile problems.

e. Raising the standards of our law enforcement officers, both moral and education, in order that the law enforcement unit may be supportive, in the courtroom and protecting factor. This results in more respect by teenagers, parents, lawyers and judges.

f. Becoming involved in Arkansas Action for Foster Children by offering our homes, time and talents.

g. To create local child care centers to provide quality care with high moral and facilitative standards. To provide: before and after school day and night care. These guidelines should follow the American Free Enterprise System for private, religious day care facilities to provide quality day care for all children regardless of financial standards.

6. a. Make it easier for foster parents to adopt children in home.

b. Make homemakers and other support services available to families in crisis such as serious illness or death.

c. Eliminate penalties against intact families in government policy and funding.

d. Strict government guidelines be established prior to intervention in homes.

ISSUE: What can be done to insure the health, education, welfare and life of children from before conception to adulthood?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The Federal Government shall protect the life of children from conception by prohibiting abortion.

2. Tax incentives and other incentives shall be provided or private agencies to serve the physical, emotional and educational needs of the unwed mother and her unborn and newborn child.

3. The Federal Government shall be encouraged to reduce federal taxation so that programs for unwed mothers can be provided by state governments with available tax payers dollars.

4. State, church and volunteer organizations shall take a more active part in counseling and providing remedial services for abused children and family participants to direct children and participants to available services.

5. Counseling and rehabilitative services should be made available to parents who have children placed in foster homes to aid in reunification.

6. To promote prevention of familiar problems and breakdown.

7. To encourage existing community agencies and schools to find each other, pool their resources and work together rather than to duplicate each other's services within a given community.

8. Control of educating, rearing and nurturing of children will be returned to the family unit, recognizing that state and local units of government, under the Constitution, have sufficient authority and means to provide support to the family unit and needed protection to the child.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Congress shall pass a law protecting human life from conception.

2. A non-taxable identity shall be available to such organizations.

3. Agencies shall be turned over to state government for supervision.

4. Establish a volunteer community health service program.

5. Funds within the foster care program shall also be available to natural parents.

6. To make available parenting education programs to strengthen the family and provide opportunities to develop coping skills.

7. Local school boards to determine local school curricula and practices.

8. Give full authority for rearing and nurturing of children to the family unit, while providing protection for the child in need.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Local citizens write to Congress to repeal abortion law. Delegates from Governor's Conference are to express this view to the WHCF.

2. a. Public school education.

1. Every elementary student should be entitled to the services of an elementary counselor.

2. Encourage local school districts to offer parenting education for students and community.

3. Provide opportunities for training parenting educators.

b. Community education.

1. Home: encourage parenting education programs to be aired on television (public and commercial) and increase public awareness of its availability.

2. Church: encourage religious groups to develop and implement parenting education programs.

3. Civic: encourage civic clubs and groups to get involved in promoting parenting education.

4. Business and industry: encourage business and industry to take an active role in providing parenting education for their employees and the community.

3. Lobby with Congressmen to reduce federal tax support for education and allow such support to be provided from local and state entities.

4. Lobby with Congressmen to assure no laws are written or enacted that infringe upon the family rights and authority to raise children without majority consent.

TOPIC: Balancing the Demands of Workplace and Family

ISSUE: In what ways can a flexible work schedule be implemented to best meet family needs?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Design a practical, flexible work schedule program in the workplace.

2. Deal with issues around bridging families and work settings.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Develop a method of leave time for sick leave/ personal care leave.

2. To gather and study data from other current flexible time schedule.

3. To educate employers/employees concerning alternative work schedules.

4. To strengthen legislation prohibiting excessive forced work hours.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Sample varied personnel policies around time and schedules.

2. To develop a coalition of key persons and organizations to devise a support plan for legislation.

ISSUE: What steps can be taken to encourage parents to stay in the home to take care of their own children? And to help families set (values and) priorities?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To encourage the nurturing of young children in the family situation, where possible.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To make a tax credit available to the non-working parent.

2. To provide assistance for low income families when one parent would like to stay home to take care of their own pre-school children.

3. To evaluate all existing government regulations/ programs that impact on parental process in the home. Exp. AFDC.

4. To make available parenting skills to parents.

5. To make available training to assist parents in setting values and priorities.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To encourage legislation for a tax credit for the non-working parent.

2. To develop a system of accountability for persons receiving assistance.

3. To develop a state panel to investigate and make recommendations around each program.

4. To utilize local resources such as churches, schools, agencies and organizations.

5. To encourage employers to provide training in realizing values and setting priorities.

ISSUE: In what ways can the work (on the job or at home) community be encouraged to recognize the value of work and be more responsive to stresses and needs of the family?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Encourage employers to support local child care facilities.

2. Encouraging having time off for going to the doctor or other family needs.

3. Encourage more accessibility to social services.

4. Encourage small businesses and in-the-home businesses.

5. Encourage part time jobs.

6. Encourage education about stress management.

7. Encourage home extension services.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Establish tax incentives to industry that implements policies.

2. Establish social security benefits for parents at home.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Write letters to senators and legislators to let them know our concern about family life needs, concerns and what minority response should be to family life concerns.

2. Job tax credit for having an employee assistance program supervisor who has adequate training.

TOPIC: Society's Response to Family Crisis

ISSUE: How can society promote parent education to reduce child abuse and neglect while at the same time being respectful of parental responsibilities to apply appropriate discipline?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Promote parent education.

2. Examine media policies.

3. Promote education for parents and prospective parents including positive discipline.

4. Help children to have positive self concept and communication skills.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Promote family life communication.

2. The policies should be controlled at the local and state level whenever possible.

3. Upon failure of local and state government to act, policies should be handled by the federal government.

4. The issue of media advertising including programming regarding alcohol beverages, act of violence and sex be examined.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Public meeting of interested persons at the local level convened by White House delegates who would take responsibility for setting up local planning committees.

2. Utilize communication media to promote positive reinforcement for family life education.

3. Encourage existing private and public organizations to promote positive family life.

4. To raise public awareness of child abuse. Educational material on child abuse to be made available at local level.

5. Urge public schools to present more positive family models.

6. Local school boards should hire school counselors at all levels to work improving self concept skills.

FILMED FROM
BEST COPY AVAILABLE

TOPIC: Society's Response to Family Crisis

ISSUE: What support systems in the community can we offer to families during periods of stress which lead to reduction of violence?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Have a network of immediate communication and support at the local level available to families at the time of stress and violence.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Identify stresses which cause violence.

2. Set up communication and relief system.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Identify existing agencies dealing with human services and set up interagency council in the community.

2. Train people in communication in handling stress and violence which emerges in families.

3. Encourage churches to offer counseling and referral services.

4. Discourage federal intervention at the local level.

5. Disseminate educational material on violence at the local level.

ISSUE: How can government and society work together to prevent and to develop programs dealing with family crisis?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Government becomes more sensitive to the family, that it once again becomes a government of the people, by the people and for the people.

2. Change the income tax structure to be equal so it does not penalize those people who are married or single head of house.

3. Oppose legalization and decriminalization of marijuana or other narcotics.

4. Oppose women in combat.

5. Decisions regarding life support systems should be left to self-determination or the family.

6. Recognize problems of single parent families and be sensitive to their needs.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. In interest of time voted not to deal with program strategies.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. Drivers' license to be checked "yes/no" as to personal preference for life support systems.

2. Preventative and family counseling services be made available to parents seeking a divorce - so that wise planning can be done in setting up solutions for handling the children and their relationships with both parents.

ISSUE: What protection from government intervention can a family have in our children's welfare?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Parental consent would be required for abortions for minor children.

2. Whenever possible, all decision-making matters relating to children should be handled within the family unit.

3. Medical attention should be provided for children whose parents fail to do so.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Voted not to make program recommendations in interest of time.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Clinics should explain dangers and options of abortions.

2. State law requiring parental consent for abortions.

3. Parental consent required for birth control measures, VD treatment and positive pregnancy testing for individuals 18 and under.

ISSUE: How can the family remain strong in their moral and ethical values while they continue to be influenced by social ills such as drug abuse, alcohol abuse and the abuse of one's sexual powers, etc.?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

Voted not to formulate policy recommendations.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

Voted not to formulate program recommendations.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Society should seek to enhance the moral climate of the community by rejecting portrayal of promiscuity, alcohol abuse, drug abuse as acceptable behavior in all the media (TV, movies, printed).

2. Pressing for stronger judicial penalties for the above abuses.

3. Educational programs concerned with drug and alcohol abuse and sex education directed toward obstension with materials approved by parents.

4. Prohibit advertising of beer and wine on TV.

5. Discussion groups on moral values at local level.

TOPIC: Designing Laws to Protect and Strengthen Families

ISSUE: In what ways can our legislatures through legislation relative to the American family reflect the definition of a family as: "persons who are related by blood (excluding incestuous relationships), marriage or adoption, specifically excluding heterosexual couples living together without benefit of a legal marriage ceremony; also excluding homosexual couples"?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. No state or government funds be provided under family assistance programs to units not specifically qualifying under the above definition of the family.

2. Tax laws be restructured to benefit and strengthen the traditional family as defined above.

3. That legislation relative to the American family reflect the definition of a traditional family as "persons who are related by blood, marriage or adoption "(excluding incestuous relationships, common-law marriage and homosexual/ lesbian couples)."

4. No legislation be passed to change existing social security policy which now provides a benefit for the homemaker.

Note: Policy recommendations were approved <u>only</u> by the task group working on this specific issue, not the total group, approximately 1/2 or 50 persons. The issue was agreed upon by <u>majority</u> of group - 150+ persons.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Any current or future legislation to recognize homosexual or lesbian as a legally or socially acceptable minority group be defeated.

2. Legislation be passed to prohibit homosexuals/ lesbians to serve as teachers, counselors, or in position relating to children.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Petition our legislators (state and federal).

2. Education or the electorate as to what legislation is pending (state and federal).

3. Attend regional social security hearings.

4. Petition legislatures to let them know your opposition to any changes.

TOPIC: Designing Laws to Protect and Strengthen Families

ISSUE: How can we educate our population as to roles and responsibilities of parenthood and family life, in all its facets (child rearing, child bearing, handicapping conditions, planning, legal rights, services available, etc.)?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The federal government should encourage the development of family related educational programs based on the expressed needs of each local community. (Small group vote 8 - 7 in favor. No large group vote.)

2. This educational opportunity shall be accessible to all ages on a life long basis. (Vote 8 for, 7 obstaining. No vote in the large group.)

Note: Policy statements were approved by a majority of the issue task group (approximately 50 persons) only, not a majority of the total workshop (approximately 150 persons).

ISSUE: What steps can be taken at the Federal and State legislative and judicial levels to enact new legislation and revise and enforce existing legislation to strengthen the family and encourage its remaining together as a family?

FILMED FROM
BEST COPY AVAILABLE

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Laws should be made and interpreted to strengthen family structures rather than weaken them.

2. Existing laws should be specifically interpreted and consistently enforced.

3. Existing laws that encourage break-ups of the family unit should be revised.

4. The government should encourage community based support systems.

5. Broader community-based involvement in design, implementation and interpretation of law.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Revision of tax structure to insure that married couples will not be penalized (due to their marital status).

2. A.F.D.C. laws revised to encourage unity rather than disunity or dispersion.

3. Revise foster care and adoptive guidelines to best meet the needs of children.

4. Revise divorce laws to give a greater chance for reconciliation.

5. Examine social security system to assure that present policies promote the family.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Support A.A.F.C. (Arkansas Association for Foster Children).

2. Require counseling for potential divorces after filing before divorce is granted.

3. Extend cooling off period between the time of divorce filing and hearing by court.

4. Oppose Homemaker Bill.

ISSUE: How can we best find alternatives to abortion through counseling, to include such areas as medical, psychological, social, moral-ethical, parental, legal and economic?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Tax money should not be used for abortions.

FILMED FROM
BEST COPY AVAILABLE

2. Any agency receiving public funds and potentially involving the question of abortion will be required to conform to guidelines of above issue statement.

3. Preventive measures through education in schools, churches, clinics, homes, civic organizations and any other area affecting family life should be made available.

4. The government should be strongly advised to make abortion illegal except for life saving reasons.

5. Since abortion counseling is a specialized function, the agencies dispensing public funds should be required to refer abortion requests to an unbiased, qualified counseling agencies or to qualified staff.

Note: Above policy recommendations were approved only by a majority of the task group working onthe above issue; not by the total group. Task Group comprised approximately 50 persons, or 1/3 of total group. The issue statement was approved by a majority of the total group.

ISSUE: What laws, if any, are needed to stop abortion?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The term abortion as used in this issue shall mean the deliberate termination of pregnancy for reasons other than to save the life of the mother.

2. Encourage the appointment of judges who reflect the views of Americans against abortion.

3. All innocent human life should be protected from the moment of conception until natural death.

4. No government monies, grants, subsidies, tax credits, etc. be used the destruction of innocent human life irrespective of age or development.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Pass a Human Life Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

2. Pass state legislation requiring informed consent and more specifically:

a. A 48 hour waiting period.

b. Education in fetal development and on what abortion does to the baby and to the mother.

3. Formulate a strategy to discourage school districts from teaching abortion as a form of birth control.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Exhort legislators to adopt a call for a Constitutional Convention for a Human Life Amendment.

2. Contact congressmen and senators to urge congressional passage of a Human Life Amendment.

3. Encourage churches and voluntary organizations to have compassion for unwed mothers.

4. Teach children that sex is properly limited to marriage and involves responsibility.

TOPIC: Decent Housing: A Necessity for Family Life

ISSUE: How can elderly be assured of decent housing?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Public or private support to insure that the elderly home owner does not lose the home.

2. Provide scattered housing for the elderly throughout the community.

3. Tax credit for family care of elderly family members.

4. Extend public work programs to provide services to elderly.

5. Implement present public work plans to serve elderly.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Elderly housing can be put in trust with elderly holding a life long estate.

2. Those that do not want housing in elderly complex should be able to live in decentralized housing.

3. Those keeping elderly family members should be able to claim them as a deduction.

4. Public work programs could serve elderly such as providing assistance to those in their own homes.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Government or private sector takes ownership of home but elderly retain life long residence.

2. Small units should be built for the elderly to buy or rent within the community.

3. Write federal law makers for tax reform.

4. Present programs like CETA could work with elderly so that they can remain in their homes.

TOPIC: Decent Housing: A Necessity for Family Life

ISSUE: How can decent housing be assured for those who rent?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. There should be a Landlord-Tenant Act in Arkansas.

2. The city should make available sewage and water for all residents.

3. Rent subsidies should be more evenly distributed to those in need from existing funds.

4. There should be adequate rental property and housing in rural areas.

5. HUD subsidy should be better implemented and utilized.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. A Landlord-Tenant Act should protect both the renter and the landlord.

2. Some areas do not have water or sewage. Every city should make this available and develop appropriate codes for builders.

3. Public housing often does not serve those in need because of unnecessary restrictions.

4. The eligibility requirements should be extended. Duplexes and apartments should be built in rural areas.

5. HUD benefits and assistance should be publicized.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Write state elected officials.

2. Take local action in each separate city by attending council meetings.

3. Ask public housing to re-write their rules and regulations.

4. Approach builders for development in rural areas.

5. Attend HUD meetings and write federal officials.

ISSUE: How can housing be more affordable?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Control and reduce federal deficit spending so inflation is reduced.

2. Reduce and stabilize interest rates for home mortgages.

3. Provide federal guaranteed home loans at low interest.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Reduce foreign aid. Reduce federal borrowing. Reduce printing of new money. Stimulate employment. Freeze interest rates.

2. Increase eligibility for federal guarantee loans, especially to middle and lower income families.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Write elected officials.

ISSUE: What can be done to assure readily available, adequate housing for low income families? *

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Needs of low income families can best be met at the local community level.

2. Tax laws should not be structured to discriminate against home owners.

3. Low income housing subsidy should be made at state and local level.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Congress should pass laws for state to retain a percentage of tax at local level for housing for low income.

2. Congress should end HUD section 8 program and states should administer such programs.

* This issue was developed using the following definition of Family: A group of people related by heterosexual marriage, blood or adoption.

ISSUE: How can government effect making the purchase of a house in reach of the family? *

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Since inflation affects the housing market, the interest rate must be lowered so that the economy may be stabilized and interest rates lowered.

2. Low interest money should be made available for home loans.

3. Make families aware of advantages of home ownership.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Gold-backed dollar.

2. Balance federal budget.

3. Local bond issues.

4. Tax incentive for lower interest rate to financial institutions.

* This issue was developed using the following definition of Family: A group of people related by heterosexual marriage, blood or adoption.

ISSUE: What can be done to eliminate excessive government regulations of housing industry and to utilize strengths of American free enterprize system? *

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Eliminate excessive government regulations of housing industry.

2. Local planning boards should eliminate extra costs generated by "quality of life concepts".

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Eliminate OSHA and enforce local laws and codes.

2. Agencies should be controlled Congress and laws made by elected officials.

3. Citizens should participate in local planning meetings.

* This issue was developed using the following definition of Family: A group of people related by heterosexual marriage, blood or adoption.

TOPIC: Quality Child Care as a Family Support

ISSUE: How can parents know that their values and beliefs are being taught in child care settings? *

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Parental involvement in decision making!

2. Community awareness.

3. Freedom to have a variety of child care settings so a parent can choose according to his/her values.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Increased monthly meetings - parent/child care - provider conferences.

2. Utilization of public service announcements, civic groups, church groups.

3. A community directed cooperative child care on a temporary basis.

4. Encourage more day care family home centers.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Contact elected local/state/federal official, state your views.

2. Contact licensing child care workers in your community.

*This issue was developed using the following definition of family: People related by heterosexual marriage, blood or adoption (excluding homosexual adoption).

ISSUE: How can we encourage local, private, church, civic, neighborhood and work place groups to organize and/or expand inexpensive child care facilities, without federal funding to allow individualized day care responsive to the wishes of the local community for all children considering the ability to pay? *

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Exempt retired persons (over 65) from minimum wage pay when working in day care center - exempt these earnings from allowable outside income under social security restrictions.

2. Credit all individuals for expense of all day care regardless of employment (all child care expenses tax deductible).

3. Recognize that certain low income individuals may need federal or other assistance to purchase day care of their choice.

4. Make money or tax credits available to churches, civic or volunteer organizations to convert existing space to day care centers.

5. Tax credits for business running or establishing child care facility to offset expense.

6. As a negotiable benefit, have employers share cost of day care with those employees who have children in the company day care center (not a legislated require).

7. Realize that parents of disabled children may require assistance to procure appropriate day care.

8. Work through local government to appeal to private citizens and businesses for contribution to a community day care center fund (designated or general contribution).

9. Encourage mothers who want to stay home with their children to become individual neighborhood child day care providers for small groups of children.

10. Educate parents about proper child care requirements.

11. Private day care centers may (they have the right to) reject federally sponsored children.

12. Encourage parental input concerning federal day care.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

(Refer to policies of same number on preceding page)

1. Change appropriate IRS, social security and minimum wage laws.

2. Amend IRS tax law to make all child care expenses deductible.

3. Have state social service handle funding by grant or contracts.

4. Tax credit program or grant or loan.

5.

6. Unions should negotiate this fringe benefit.

7. Inward WATS line, public service announcements or prime time.

8. Program similar to March of Dimes or United Way.

9. Kiddie clubs, Coop mother groups, info about requirements to be a child care person or provider.

10. Inward WATS line.

11. Self-explanatory.

*This issue was developed using the following definition of family: People related by heterosexual marriage, blood or adoption (excluding homosexual adoption).

ISSUE: What policies can society institute to encourage mothers of preschool children to care for their children at home recognizing that there is no substitute for a child's own mother, and that this action would alleviate America's continuing unemployment problems? *

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of society to encourage young mothers of pre-schoolers to raise their children at home recognizing the valuable contribution of motherhood to society.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Encourage and lobby for support of Senator Roth's pending legislation to balance budget.

2. To give income tax breaks to mothers who stay at home with their preschool children.

3. An awareness program to enlighten mothers of the important contribution that mothers make to society by raising their own children.

4. Encourage the defeat of the changes in the social security laws, especially "Social Security - The Changing Role of Men and Women".

5. Be well informed as to laws that affect or threaten our families.

6. Devise a network for response to inappropriate and offensive programs and advertising in the media.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

Strategies to implement program 1.

1. Encourage and lobby for support of Senator Roth's pending legislation to balance budget.

a. Letters to representatives and senators in support of Senator Roth's Bill.

b. Get the federal government out of our pocketbooks by promoting Free Enterprise!!

c. Cut unnecessary overlapping federally funded programs.

d. Stop cutting into fixed and low income family salaries, instead demand that elected and unelected officials take a cut in salary and fringe benefits.

Strategies to implement program 2.

1. Investigate procedures for enactment of federal legislation to change tax law. Contact Congressmen and lobby such bills for floor recommendation and enactment.

Strategies to implement program 3.

1. Demand equal time to present research findings on the detrimental effects of day care on preschoolers in the media. Inform Congressmen and elected representatives to educate them of this. Enhance the self-esteem of mothers of young children and restore the dignity of motherhood in the eyes of the population through textbooks (especially) in the education system, through the media, and through the power of the ballot.

Strategies to implement program 4.

1. Contact rep., ask for report "Changing Roles on Men and Women."

2. Study bill and inform others.

3. Identify with groups with some concerns.

4. Attend and encourage others attendance and testify at public hearings.

5. Impress upon others the value of their vote.

6. Be well informed as to laws that affect or threaten our families.

Strategies to implement program 5.

1. Create open communications with senators and representatives, state and national.

2. Ask representatives for information on pending legislation concerning families and distribute this information.

3. Make your elected representative aware of your conviction through correspondence with them and public forums.

4. Impress upon others the value of their vote.

Strategies to implement program 6.

1. Devise a network for response to inappropriate and offensive programs and ads in the media.

a. Get to the sponsors.

1. Inform them by letters from concerned citizens' groups of your feelings.

2. Boycott products.

3. Letters to editors.

4. Praise sponsors of good family programming and ads by phoning and writing.

ISSUE: What steps can be taken to encourage mothers to take care of their children in the home?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of the federal government to produce economic conditions which will allow mother to take care of their own children in the home.

2. Eliminate federally funded day care centers thereby encouraging alternative solution.

3. To encourage business and private organization to provide stimulation for young mothers in the home.

4. Encourage women to take jobs which they can do at home and thus be with their children.

5. Encourage businesses to provide part time employment for mothers.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Balance the federal budget thereby controling inflation.

2. Encourage mothers to supplement their income by keeping a small number of children within the home, without being inspected by the state.

3. Encourage Mothers Day Out programs.

4. Encourage business to provide temporary care in places of recreation, shopping, etc.

ISSUE: How can we encourage alternative solutions for child care without government support and regulations?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. An alternative solution to government funded preschool programs should be a movement toward a more total free enterprise system in home program child care. Whereby home programs would be expanded to become the dominant avenue for child care services.

2. To encourage businesses, private, individuals and volunteer organizations to set up child care centers.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To establish church supported preschool.

2. To establish home care centers.

ISSUE: How can we insure that parents know that their values and beliefs are being taught in federally funded preschool centers?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Parents must have input into the curriculum and approve it.

2. Background of all teachers, their beliefs, values and moral standards, as well as their education credentials should be approved by parents.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Committee of parents to keep abreast of the kinds of teaching materials used in curriculum.

2. Have an evaluation board for teachers.

3. We want God the Creator put back into our schools - not federal government controling our children.

4. Respect for our American flag and free enterprise system must be taught.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To insure parents of values beliefs in federal funded preschool centers to become involved in the issue - pro or con concerning issue.

2. We as united parents can block federally funded mandatory schools in favor of private free enterprise schools.

3. Write all elected officials of our position of federal funded school.

4. Educate working mothers of their options to choose private day care secular/religious state funded day care or private persons to watch their preschool children. In order to avoid a burden for taxpayers in federally funded day care centers.

TOPIC: Government: Friend or Foe to Families

ISSUE: How can the governmental economic support policies be changed to support the interests of the family without penalizing those women who choose to be homemakers?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Federal programs shall not penalize families.

2. Income and social security tax and AFDC should support rather than penalize the family unit.

3. Families of persons who stay at home should not be penalized for the homemaker choice.

4. Stop benefit discrimination against 2-parent families.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Equalize taxes so married couples aren't penalized. Establish care benefits so that elderly and/or disabled can be at home as well as in institutions.

2. Assign economic value to homemaking in ways that bring economic support, not stress, to families (e.g. shared tax credits).

3. Encourage individuals and communities to care for disadvantaged in their areas.

4. Homemakers not required to pay FICA. Social security earnings clause for elderly shall be removed.

5. Levelize IRS tax tables between marrieds and singles.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Balance federal, state and local budgets to live within means in order to relieve inflation pressures from family.

2. Concentrate on private and public sector economic development that benefits families (e.g. CETA) without deficit spending.

3. Require Arkansas State Delegation to abide by the recommendations.

ISSUE: What could be done to minimize the government intervention in American family life, recognizing that parents have the responsibility for the rearing and moral training of children?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Return control of family related matters to the family. No national family policy shall be adopted. Local and state laws shall be sufficient as long as they are constitutional.

2. Federal program and policy recognize the parental right to notification for any government programs involving a minor child.

3. Federal programs and policies should not deny, degenerate or diminish the role difference between sexes, as has been historically understood in U.S.

4. Programs for family crises funded on local and state level rather than federal.

5. Encourage private caring groups (e.g. churches) to meet local human service needs.

6. Oppose President Carter's recent steps to establish an "office of families" within the H.E.W.

7. Support "Family Protection Act" as presented by Senator Paul Laxalt (R-Nev.)

8. Oppose Senator Kennedy's legislation of decriminalizing marijuana.

9. Encourage opposition to H.R. 2977, the "Domestic Violence: Prevention and Treatment Act".

10. Recommend pending legislation be reviewed in light of the social and moral welfare of the family.

11. Recommend that federal aid to education can be monitored as to its use on the local level.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Congress shall be encouraged to adopt SB 1808 (Laxalt, Utah) Family Protection Act.

2. Congress shall be encouraged not to adopt a national family policy or to establish an office of families within HEW.

3. Opposition to Domestic Violence Act (HR 2977).

4. Encourage teaching traditional curriculum as well as current humanistic curriculum.

ISSUE: How can we lessen governmental intervention in education and encourage parental/guardian involvement?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Dissolve Department of Education and remove Shirley Huffsteadler as Director.

2. Parents and guardians be informed if children 18 and under request abortions.

3. It will not be the policy of the federal government to teach atheism, humanism or values clarification.

4. Christian schools be free of governmental regulations.

5. Allow Biblical accounting of creation to be taught along with Darwin and similar theories.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Support Human Life Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

2. Educational channels develop programs to assist parents in home.

3. Parents be allowed to preview and accept or reject textbooks or films used in the public schools.

4. There is no need for educational channels to develop programs to assist parents in the home.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Write the Arkansas delegation (national and state) concerning these issues and require them to abide by these recommendations.

2. Federal funding be stopped to any organization or project which is opposed by the local community.

3. Write congressmen to encourage them to support discharge petition #7.

4. Forced busing be stopped immediately.

5. Recommend that both Republican and Democratic Parties include these issues and their policies in their platforms for 1980.

6. Instruct our government education officials to view humanism as a false religion.

ISSUE: How can we as citizens stop the government and governmental agencies' continual attempts to interfere and influence the family's traditional, legal, and God given rights and responsibilities for raising our families, running our homes, and educating our children in the manner in which we see fit?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Return control of family related matters to families.

2. Family will be defined as one man, one woman united by legal marriage, children by blood and/or adoption, or the surviving spouse.

3. It shall not be the governments policy to provide contraceptive and abortion information to children and teenagers.

4. Family defined as those related by blood (excluding incestual realtionships) marriage or adoption specifically excluding heterosexual couples living together without benefit of legal ceremony; also excluding homosexual couples.

5. Item of morals, personal values and religion - beliefs left to family judgment, education and influence.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Pass SB 1808.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Oppose the Domestic Violence and Prevention Act.

2. Recognize children as belonging to parents instead of the State.

3. Support Discharge Petition #7, returning voluntary prayer to schools.

4. Oppose President Carter's recent step establishing an office on families within the Human Services Department.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Write congressmen; encourage them to co-sponsor SB 1808.

2. Write congressmen about National Family Policy and find candidates to support.

3. Stop passage of Domestic Violence Act HB 2977. Fund domestic violence programs at state and local level.

4. Introduce legislation to a legislator that neutralizes government control and emphasizes family responsibility and rights.

5. Organize a vocal voice.

6. Send telegrams.

7. Write short letters.

8. Communicate effort through all possible public sources (i.e.) churches, clubs, etc.

9. Telephone legislators.

ISSUE: What can be done to assure family autonomy and prevent federal or state government from interfering in traditional family life?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That it not be federal policy to penalize husband and wife under the income tax code.

2. Legislation be enacted to eliminate IRS rulemaking methods without congressional approval of each rule request affecting family or church.

3. Family is to be defined as those related by blood, (excluding incestual relationships) marriage, or adoption specifically excluding heterosexual couples living together without benefit of legal ceremony; also excluding homosexual couples.

4. Be the policy of the federal government not to issue a social security number until a person enters the work force.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Recommend that federal funding be ceased from all projects or agencies working to support the passage of ERA.

2. Recommend that no family federal funding be extended to units not specifically defined in Policy Recommendation #3.

3. Recommend that federal funding be ceased from all projects or agencies working to fund abortions.

4. Parents be given authority to choose or reject public school textbooks at the state level.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Homemakers should not be required to pay FICA taxes.

2. Federal funding be ceased from all projects which encourage the homemaker to leave the home and join the outside workforce.

3. Federal regulations be discontinued which encourage couples to live together without marriage or that discourage the traditional family as defined in Policy #3.

4. Valid statistics should be given for how women working outside the home raises unemployment for men.

5. Federal funding be cut off from all school districts teaching in whole or in part the "alternate lifestyle" otherwise known as homosexuality.

ISSUE: How should the family be defined for the purpose of governmental policies and programs in view of the varying definitions of the family?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The federal government shall adopt a uniform traditional definition of the family.

2. Legal definition of the family as defined by blood, marriage or adoption.

3. Definition of family is to be: consist of persons related by heterosexual marriage or adoption or other legal arrangements, i.e. the traditional family (non-homosexual or communal). This intends support for the 77% majority.

4. Guardianship be included in the above when child's custody has been awarded to a family as defined above.

5. We recommend that the family should be defined as those persons related by heterosexual marriage, blood, or adoptions.

6. This definition of the family is to be applied to all government laws, policies and programs.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Each government agency having any effect on families shall adopt a traditional definition of the family.

2. No federal programs be designed or implemented which doesn't meet above definition of family.

3. No federal funds designed or implemented which does not meet above definition of family.

4. Unmarried heterosexual couples would not receive same benefits as traditional family.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. "Traditional family" shall be defined as being composed of people related by blood, marriage or adoption, excluding homosexual marriages.

2. Proper legislation shall be implemented so that this definition of family is written into legislation on all federal programs that relate to family life in America.

3. Insure this policy definition be in all legislation and regulations providing support for the family.

4. Introduce definition of the family by a legislator.

5. Organize a vocal voice.

6. Send telegrams.

7. Write short letters.

8. Communicate effort through all possible public sources (i.e.) churches, clubs, etc.

9. Telephone legislators.

TOPIC: Options for the Oldest Members of the Family

ISSUE: In what ways can we develop policies and guidelines for adequate housing and independent living for the elderly?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of all groups involved to promote this issue (AARP, NRTA, RSVP).

2. It should be the policy to help the aged with funds for maintenance of housing, hiring house helpers, etc. that would enable people to live in own homes.

3. It should be the policy - on whatever level to provide "hospice" provisions.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Encourage churches and other organizations to contact government officials, legislators or independent housing.

TOPIC: Options for the Oldest Members of the Family

ISSUE: In what ways can we provide needed services and support for the elderly without undue tax burden on the present and succeeding generations?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Increase volunteerism.

2. It should be the policy of the federal government to decrease tax burdens for the elderly (i.e. care, medical care, upkeep of houses, etc.)

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Encourage tax laws to provide deductions for care of elderly.

2. Provide income tax deductions for service hours given to the elderly.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Churches, media, industry should begin pre-retirement programs.

ISSUE: In what ways can the role of the aged as contributing members of family and community be enhanced?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of government (all levels) to provide programs which promote the health and income of the aged as well as provide opportunities for continuing productivity, adequate housing, protective services.

2. It should be the policy of government (all levels) to support and solicit family involvement when dealing with general problems on the elderly.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Make Medicaid eligibility for home care.

2. Federal abolition of all mandatory retirement.

3. Revise Transportation Act 1974 UMPTA.

4. Employment guidelines should be changed to offer part time employment opportunities, sheltered workshops.

5. Institute a national anti-abuse act.

6. Provide assistance for families who allow elderly residents to live with them.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Concerned citizens should lobby for programs for the aged.

2. Legislators should exert haste in passage of federal guidelines for the aged: health care insurance bill, etc.

3. Concerned citizens should create committees of local employers to seek out employable elderly citizens.

4. Federal government should begin an "Aid to Families with Dependent Elderly". This should be a bill passed in Congress and can be lobby for by organizations, concerned citizens, health care workers, etc.

ISSUE: In what ways can we encourage family and personal responsibility for the elderly?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Help older citizens prepare for own older years.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Have community organizations assist elderly in self-help operations.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Social agencies should eliminate duplication of services to elderly, thereby reducing taxes.

ISSUE: In what ways can we assure the opportunity for adequate housing in order to maintain the quality of family life for aged individuals?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of the government - each level - to encourage the development of guidelines to insure the elderly the choice of adequate housing.

2. It should be the policy of the federal government to provide federally assistance for aged individuals who choose other than public housing/nursing homes.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The federal government should monitor local and state guidelines which favor public housing or institutionalized living accommodations.

2. The federal government should provide grants for area health care aides, home improvements, etc. designed to promote adequate housing for those elderly persons wanting to maintain their own homes.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Public school systems should incorporate information on the independence of the aged as part of their curriculum.

2. Organizations such as the AARP (American Association of Retired Persons), Gerontological Societies, churches, etc. should lobby for adequate housing for the elderly.

3. Local, state and federal legislators could sponsor seminars.

ILLINOIS

TOPIC: CHILDREN AND PARENTS

ISSUE: PREPARATION FOR/ AND RESPONSIBLE PARENTING

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Preparation for parenting classes should be available at religious institutions only.
2. Parenitng classes' curriculum development should be kept at the local level.
3. Mass media should be forced to provide responsible coverage in dealing with parenting, sex, etc.
4. School curriculums should have courses in responsible parenting.
5. Preparation for parenting and child care be a required part of pre-natal care.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Encourage responsibility of mass media prohibiting violent action and sexual agression.
2. Requirement of public school parenting classes may be fulfilled at religious institutions.
3. Parenting curriculum would include communications skills, parenting skills, and child development.
4. Statewide family night with support for and information available through the schools and churches for optional use in the home.
5. All materials in the school curriculum to be pre-viewed by parents with the option of excusing their children when dealing with controversial subjects.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Task force of Parents and Professionals to determine the preparation for
2. parenting based on policies and
3. program recommendations stated above.
4. Funded by State & local resources.

ISSUE: SUPPORTS FOR CHILDREN AND PARENTS

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Support services should begin at birth and support rather than supplant the family.
2. Government agencies, private agencies, schools, and churches should develop information so families can develop their own support systems.
3. Government policies and laws define parents as persons related by heterosexual marriage, blood, or adoption.

4. Support services for the parent and child should begin with the pregnant woman.
5. Support programs should affirm the right for parental consent and knowledge for medical care and counseling and education for their children.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Children's services should involve parents and private agencies at the local level.
2. Investigate the needs of existing resources and deploying of plans.
3. Provide self-help groupsfor parents.
4. Call upon lawmaking bodies to repeal and reject laws which authorize medical care, counseling services , etc. without parental consent or knowledge.
5. Prepare resources list about existing support services available.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Give tax incentives to businesses who offer day care services to their employees.
2. Community agencies and the community in general should be encouraged to follow through on the program recommendations.
3. Tax relief to mothers who stay home with children under the age of three.
4. Local governments should be discouraged from passing zoning laws which exclude daycare centers from neighborhoods.
5. Use the media as much as possible to get these messages across.

TOPIC: 1. (2.) 3... EDUCATION

TOPIC: Quality of Education

ISSUE: How can families discover whether or not their children are attaining proficiency in the basic skills and be involved in the mechanism of working toward parental/school/community agreement on the purposes of education?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It shall be the policy of the local school district to involve families in determing what should be the desired basic skills and curriculum content.
2. It should be the policy of the local school district to involve families in determining what should be the level of proficiency in the basic skills.
3. It should be the policy of the local school district to involve families in the formulation of stated proficiency goals.
4. It shall be the policy of the local educational system to provide opportunities for frequent in-depth dialogue/evaluation by families of purposes of education.
5. It should be the policy of state government and local school boards to assume when possible the maximum role in education rather than the federal government.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. State legislatures or state educational agencies shall mandate that each local school board shall provide a mechanism for the involvement of families in determing the basic skills and curriculum content(example - parent advisory committee.)

2. State legislatures or state educational agencies shall mandate that each local school board shall provide a mechanism for involvement of families when determining the level of proficiency.

3. State legislatures or state educational agencies shall mandate that each local school board shall involve families in developing an understandable system of communicating the child's progress toward the proficiency goals.

4. State eduational agencies shall aid local school boards in the preparation of programs for publicizing and encouraging family involvement.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS: completed by task-force

1. Specific tools such as town hall meetings, newspaper ballots, task forces, public service television and radio announcements, direct mailings to parents, and the use of service organizations should be utilized to implement the policies and programs.

2. Challenge local school boards to hold their meetings where they are more accessible to people. For example, rotate meetings at school buildings within the district.

3. More widely publicize the meeting schedule and agenda for school board meetings.

4. Use techniques employed in other nationwide campaigns such as the campaign to educate people to the importance of immunization and the campaign to meet the needs of the handicapped.

TOPIC: Family, School, and Community Involvement in Education

ISSUE: What can be done to build effective parent and community participation in the educational process, utilize community resources and counteract the lack of parental involvement?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It should be the policy of each local school district to generate interest and subsequently provide opportunities for parents to be involved in an on-going exchange with educators and the community.

2. School districts shall aim to bring about confluence concerning the positive expectations that all groups bring to a child s education.

3. It shall be the policy of the federal gorernment to encourage local school districts to recognize the value of family and community participation and to proceed to utilize these resources.

4. It shall be the policy of each local school district to create an atmos-- phere that welcomes visiting parents into their schools and follow-up any involvement with personal contact where possible to encourage further parent participation in the education of their children.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Family, School and Community groups must collaborate to provide the best educational experiences for the diversity of children in their community. Funding and adequate resjources and services are necessary.

2. Local school districts should locate and involve faculty and community talents and existing programs for resources in classroom learning opportunities and extra-curricular activities subject to parental input and approval.

3. Each local school district should establish a forum (invite religious, ethnic, and racial minorities representation) that would facilitate family and community participation in the schools.

Schools will foster basic principles of democracy by joint participa---tion of families in the education process.

5. Schools must reach out to families and community networks in a continuing dialogue and plan social activites that stimulate participation.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS: - Finished by task force.

1. Seminar programs for family and community members can be conducted so that they can interact with school staff and fellow parents on curriculum issues and other concerns such as teaching methods, materials, values, and discipline.

2. Community-Based Leadership (CBL) should be encouraged. Family members add community representatives share responsibility for meetings and programs.

3. Teachers and administrative staff must be encouraged to utilize resources once they are made aware of them.

4. Local school districts shall allocate time, personnel and facilities to establish communication with families and community members. On-going dialogue should be continued in various group formats, e.g. career nights, Saturday car washes, etc.

5. Parents committees, neighborhood flyers, radio announcements, public relations campaigns, notes taken to parents by students, and TV spots are strategies for school outreach.

TOPIC: Education

ISSUE: In what ways can family life education and effective teacher/leaders in family life education be provided and used to assist families in fulfilling their functions? Some of the most important funcions are: physical maintenance, allocation of resources, division of labor, socialization of family members, reproduction, recruitment and release of family members, maintenance of reder, placement of members in the larger society, and maintenance of motivation and morale.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of government and the private sector --e.g. employers, private agencies, volunteer organizations and the media -- to acknowledge, reinforce, and support family life education.

2. It should be the policy of institutions of higher education to produce professionals in all helping professions who can encourage and facilitate emotionally healthy families through Family Life Education.

3. Family Life Education should address the incidence, correction and prevention of domestic violence, child abuse, rape and incest.

4. It should be the policy of all who influence family life to promote emotionally healthy families.

5. Family Life Educators recognize parent s primary role for their children including responsibility as final arbiter in all facets of family life curriculum and participation.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The public and private sector must recognize the value of a stable family life on the workplace and in society.

2. The public and private sectors ~~must recognize~~ utilizing classroom and community setting, must plan and provide life-long learning oppportunities for all ages in family issues.

3. The public and private sectors must challenge the FCC and the sponsors of TV programs to provide wholesome family-life programming and discourage violence, irresponsible sexual activity, and the display and exploitation of women's bodies and/or minds in the promotion and sale of products.

4. Educators should include in curriculum of family life education not only practical knowledge but communication skills, introspective skills and the identification of appropriate community resources.

5. The public and private sectors should recognize cultural and social differences in allethnic groups as manifested within the definition of family and family settings.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS: completed by task force

1. Standardize a "system" for studying the complexeties of family life utilizing the functions or developmental tasks of families and the stages of all family life systems.

2. Provide competency-based family life education programs for all professionals.

3. Encourage the public and advocacy groups and individuals to organize protests against sexploitation in advertising and TV programming.

4. Identify all professions that have opportunity to deal with families and their welfare, and subsequently identify varying "competencies" needed by helping professionals.

TOPIC: Marriage

ISSUE: In what ways should preparation for a legally recognized marriage be implemented?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To recommend that those who are implementing program of preparation focus on the role of the family as the primary milieu for preparation for the decision whether to marry and for marriage, and to include training and support for the family to enhance the readiness to accept this reponsibility and the ability to carry it out.

2. To recommend the recognition of marriage as an on-going process. Agencies and programs should include opportunities at various time frames in the life of the marriage to develop skills to successfully manage each passage.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To recommend that community agencies work with individuals and couples to better prepare them in the following areas as they relate to the decision to marry and to marriage:

   economics/finances
   legislation/law
   health/nutrition
   sexuality
   interpersonal relations/communications
   values/spirituality

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS: 59

1. To recommend that the newly legislated Federal Department of Education and other appropriate Federal agencies advocate for the development of marriage preparation programming, with sensitivity to our society's pluralism, from primary grades through college by local Boards of Education and local College Boards of Regents.

2. To recommend that national religious leaders advocate for the best marriage preparation programming within their own constituency and within other community systems.

ISSUE: In what ways can the maintenance and nurturing of legally recognized marriages be assisted by counseling/therapy resources?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To recommend that tax incentives be provided to unions and businesses to work together to initiate employee benefit programs that include coverage for mental health services, such as counseling/therapy, for the enrichment of family life and marriage, and prevention and remedy of problems.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To recommend that the law enforcement system mandate substantial training for law enforcement personnel and other professionals to develop "crisis intervention teams" to deal with the crisis intervention dynamics of "family disturbance" episodes.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To recommend that national social service and mental health organizations raise in priority their professional commitment to preparation for understanding marital relationships, and take steps to strengthen this criteria in their review standards for agencies and certification standards for individual professionals.

2. To recommend that national religious bodies raise in priority their programs of training of clergy and other church professionals for the enrichment of marriage and family life, early intervention in marriage stress/problems, and skills in appropriately referring to counseling/therapy resources.

3. To recommend that the training of health care professionals include adequate training for the enrichment of marriage and family life, early intervention in marriage stress/problems, and skills in appropriately referring to counseling/therapy resources.

4. To recommend that the legal professionals should be trained for the enhancement of marriage and family life, early intervention in marriage stress/problems, and skills in appropriately referring to counseling/therapy resources.

ISSUE: In what ways should major societal systems function to be more supportive of legally recognized marriages?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To recommend that state legislatures review the marriage licensing process toward inclusion of basic information on marriage, with the intent of inducing couples to seriously evaluate their readiness for marriage and their commitment to marriage. The results of any such process would be confidential information to the couple and would not in any way give power to the State to consent or not consent to issuance of marriage license.

2. To recommend that Federal and State governments review existing and future legislation to remove all laws, policies, and regulations that act to discourage or penalize marriage.

3. All families should have access to adequate family court services and family counseling services.

4. Legislation should be drafted to provide funds for local jurisdictions to establish family court services, including such functions as family conciliation services, custody evaluation services and domestic violence programs.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To recommend that the radio and television industry and the major companies that support the industry develop programming for general radio and television that would realistically portray marriage and provide resources for the maintenance and nurturing of married persons.

2. To recommend the development of public recreation facilities which will be widely available for use by family units.

3. To recommend the acceptance of new roles and responsibilities within traditional marriage settings (e.g., employment of wives outside the home, paternity leave) because of the changing needs within our society.

4. To support Governor Thompson's proclamation for family night and encourage development of materials for use by families to teach marriage skills in that format.

TOPIC: Health

ISSUE: Accessability to Health Services

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Concerns about health care accessibility should encompass cultural, economic and ethnic as well as geographic and physical considerations.
2. For the health needs of families, there need to be alternatives to long-term institutional care such as homemaker/home health services, geriatric day care programs and group living arrangements. Adequate funding for these programs is crucial.
3. It shall be the policy of federal, state and local governmental bodies to foster and encourage alternative methods of health care delivery expanding the capability of health care professionals.
4. Third party payers should be encouraged to broaden the scope of their ccverage to include expanded payment for out-patient and preventive treatment.
5. Medicare and Mediaid policies should be revised to promote timely reimbursements that are more reflective of the actual cost of providing health services.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Hospice programs and HMO's should be fostered and encouraged as examples of cost effective family centered health care.
2. Title XIX Medicaid funds should be made available for non-physician health service providers such as psychologists, social workers, nurse midwives, physician's assistance and nurse practitioners.
3. Initiatives should be expanded to attract health care providers and programs to rural and underserved areas insofar as utilization efficiency can be maintained.
4. Programs should be developed in every county to alleviate deficiencies in critical areas of health care delivery. Examples of such deficiencies are the lack of Medicare/Medicaid-certified nursing homes, adequate prenatal care and sufficient community-based mental health service, among others.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Conference follow-up staff should contact officials and encourage increased funding to be designated for community-based services for children and adolescents. One example would be the need for allocation of funds specifically earmarked within the Department of Mental Health budget for such services.

2. Legislative and professional bodies shall be made aware of the support of this conference for licensure for nurse practitioners and nurse midwives.
3. Making health care services more accessible to families involves increasing their awareness of how to best utilize existing services. Families outside the mainstream of health care services, such as the impoverished, the non-English speaking, the elderly, and residents new to the community require attention and assistance in this important area.
4. State regulatory bodies should be informed of this conference's concern regarding the need for availability of adequate ambulance service in every county. Recognition should be made in setting standards that less sophisticated services presently existing in a community may not be sufficient for all the community's needs but do have a place in the system.

ISSUE: Research, Program Evaluation and needs assessment in Health

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The state agencies responsible for providing preventive or treatment services for children and their families must implement programs of research to investigate critical questions such as the relationship between early indicators and later health status and the validity of operating assumptions about prevention and treatment.
2. Health care programs should be evaluated on how they meet individual health needs within an ecological perspective. The core principle of this approach is the assumption that individuals need to be understood in the context of the relationships in their immediate and wider social environment.
3. Given the volume of findings on high-risk health phenomena, dissemination of the information and practical application is often deficient. Research should increase the focus on practical preventive and treatment approaches while remaining respectful of individual choice and cultural values.
4. It should be the policy research in the field of environmental health and how working conditions, energy sources, industrial processes and products marketed for home use affect family health.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Support of actions designed to achieve needed improvement in the quality of health services, including those needs identified by the review activities of professional standard review organizations and accrediting bodies.
2. Local HSA's should be responsible for keeping informed about health research in progress in their regions to avoid duplication and enhance implementation of findings.
3. At least 5% of funds appropriated for health services to families shall be designated for research and each program utilizing these funds shall have a thorough plan for evaluation.
4. Further research/evaluation should be promoted to assess the efficacy of alternative health care delivery systems and paraprofessional providers.

STATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Employers should be given tax incentives for establishing programs that promote the wellness concept. Some examples are: stress management, counseling services, substance abuse programs and industrial safety.
2. Conference follow-up staff should contact key associations of health care providers to inform them of conference findings and to explain the recommendations.
3. Individuals concerned with family health care are urged to become involved with their local HSA's to assure adequate consumer

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Conference follow-up staff should contact the FCC to urge expansion of Public Service program requirements to include additional time for preventive health programming. Local health experts should be among the community leaders consulted in the current ascertainment process for a station's license renewal.
2. Conference follow-up staff should contact the FDA to urge stronger "truth in labeling" legislation.
3. Conference follow-up staff shall recommend to the Governor that legislation be supported requiring the presence of a County-wide Public Health Department in every county of the state.
4. Such departments shall be responsible for coordinating and disseminating information on availability of health services and shall assure that such preventive health services as nutrition programs, immunizations, dental hygiene instruction, hypertension screening, and other needed services determined locally are available to all residents of the county.

ISSUE: Preventive Health Care and Health Education
The Health Task Force of the Illinois/White House Conference on Families adopted the World Health Organization definition of Health*.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Comprehensive health, family life, and safety education should be offered and financed, to all individuals. Althernative delivery systems must be available to all individuals as determined on a local level.
2. Encourage development of mechanisms to provide adequate and timely payment for preventive health care.
3. Mandate immunization, screening, and tracking procedures according to standard medical practice, as a prerequisite to admission to any child care facility.
4. Increase exposure of preventive health information to all individuals. This shall include, but not be limited to: nutrition, dental care, substance abuse, mental health, family planning, and safety.
5. The medical community should be involved in the provision of preventive health care and health education at the policy level.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. There must be a concentrated effort toward networking services and providing more money for local central information and referral services throughout the State of Illinois.
2. Any legislation affecting payment mechanisms for health care should have as its first priority a comprehensive maternal and child health component.
3. To supplement the work of local HSA's school boards and similar groups, an autonomous ongoing statewide advisory committee shall be established. This committee, utilizing legislative and local input, shall develop guidelines and submit recommendations for health, family life and safety education programs and legislation. All health education programs involving minor children shall be so designed as to maximize ongoing parental input and in strict observance of parental and children's rights.
4. That at least 25% of all state and federal health and mental health funds be restricted to preventive health programs.

* Health is not only the absence of illness but also physical, emotional, and social well being.

participation in the health planning process.

4. In collecting needs assessment data for the purpose of program development, individuals representative of a cross section of the community should be utilized more fully. This would result in more accurate reporting and a higher degree of community support for resulting health care programs.

TOPIC: CHILD CARE

ISSUE: AVAILABILITY We recognize that child care is a component of the family support system. Within this context, there is a need for more quality child care.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The federal government should promote and assure provision of high quality child care, family oriented, rather than economics-oriented.

2. Policies on child care must show variety that respects and accommodates differences in age, need, and cultural values.

3. All child care policies and programs should be based on children's and families' strengths rather than focusing on deficits.

4. Child care policy must not be viewed exclusively as a woman's or poor people's issue.

5.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Quality programming must be characterized by an emphasis on the development of the "whole child" with support being given to personal and cultural diversity and racial integration.

2. Quality programs should include:preschool, infant care centers, family day care homes, before and after school, temporary and crisis care and night child care.

3 Significant parent input and participation must be required.

4 Business and labor unions and local communities should be educated to recognize the benefits of providing quality child care.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Concerned individuals are urged to write their legislators in support of federal and state legislation for good quality child care.

2. Businesses should be encouraged to provide good quality child care for their employees.

3. Labor unions should be encouraged to make quality child care for their members an item for negotiation.

4. Concerned individuals should educate their communities on the benefits of quality child care and parent education, and should urge them to support and provide needed programs.

5. Voluntary organizations of parents and others concerned with children should form coalitions at the national, state, and local levels to achieve in concert adequate child care and parent education programs.

TOPIC: CHILD CARE

ISSUE: TRAINING Child care training must be made top priority. People working in early childhood programs (particularly in programs for children under five) are sorely underpaid and in a position of very low status. Child care training must include (1) ongoing training for child care workers in licensed child care facilities, and (2) aid to parents and the community in becoming better informed about parenting.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should not be the policy of government to tell families how to rear their children.

2. Government responsibility is to ensure that parents have access to information which will help them meet the needs of their children.

3. The federal government should encourage and support the establishment of model child care training programs.

4. Existing funds for the training of child care workers should be utilized to the maximum.

5.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Ongoing in-service training for child care workers (including supervision and programming) should be available in licensed c.c. facilities.

2. Specific programs emphasizing the value of child care training and education for parenting should be developed.

3. A central information office should be established to assist individuals seeking information on child care needs and services. This information could be available through a toll-free number.

4. The use of media for teaching effective parenting should be encouraged.

5.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Providers of child care services and educational institutions which train these workers should approach HEW, DOC, and other agencies for funds to establish model child care programs, and technical assistance should be made available to applicants for these funds.

2 Congress should be urged to remove the cap from Title XX training funds.

3 Hospitals should be approached to provide education for parenting via their social service departments, pediatricians, etc.

ISSUE: COST Funding for child care must reflect the priority of our children as this country's greatest resource.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. There should be sliding fee scales for federally funded child care based on ability to pay and service provided.

2. Salaries for child care workers should be commensurate with training, education, and experience.

3. Minimum training and evaluation requirements should be raised.

4. All levels of government should ensure that reimbursements reflect the full cost of good quality child care.

5.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The cost of child care should be shared by parents, employers, unions, the community and government.

2. IRS allowances for child care should be substantially increased.

3. Federal funding should be available for parent education program to be available to all who want them.

4. The development of children under five is as important as, if not more important than, education for children five and older; therefore, child care programs for children under five should be given at least the same funding priority as public school education.

5.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The cost of quality child care should include adequate training and adequate wages for child care personnel.

2. IRS regulations should be amended to allow deductions for charitable gifts on the short form.

3. Concerned individuals need to educate legislators and policy makers about benefits of quality child care so that they can give effective support to quality programs.

TOPIC: LAW

ISSUE: How can present laws re: social security, inheritance, dom icile choice, right to support, credit & property rights be changed to give the homemaker a more equitable partnership in the marriage, and how can new legislation re: adequate child care facilities be written for the homemaker who is forced to work outside the home to support or help support her family.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

#1. Nationwide policies relating to families should work toward the concept of equal partnership marriages where benefits, responsibilities, financial assets and liabilities are equitably shared by both partners in a marriage.

#2. Whenever possible legislation concerning the homemaker's equitable rights should be explored and implemented on the state level.

ISSUE: How can present laws re: social security, inheritance, dom icile choice, right to support, credit & property rights be changed to give the homemaker a more equitable partnership in the marriage, and how can new legislation re: adequate child care facilities be written for the homemaker who is forced to work outside the home to support or help support her family.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

#1. Nationwide policies relating to families should work toward the concept of equal partnership marriages where benefits, responsibilities, financial assets and liabilities are equitably shared by both partners in a marriage.

#2. Whenever possible legislation concerning the homemaker's equitable rights should be explored and implemented on the state level.

ISSUE: How can present laws on divorce/separation/alimony/custody/ child support/visitation be changed to strengthen family relationships.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

#1. Encourage the study of variations in the drafting and enforcement of domestic relations law and suggest guidelines for uniform sanctions and fair decision making.

#2. Establish a continuum of legal recognition to replace the absolute state of is-isn't regarding present marriage. Some guarantee of rights (together with the requirement of responsibility) must attach to intermediate points along the continuum. There should be more frequent invocation of the domestic relations court equity jurisdiction.

#3. The traditional concept of the family unit should be preserved as the accepted norm.

#4. There should be guaranteed representation of a child by Guardian ad Litem in divorce proceedings.

#5. The idea of a family relationship should be defined as family or extended family.

ISSUE: How can present laws on divorce/separation/alimony/custody/ child support/visitation be changed to strengthen family relationships.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

#1. Encourage the study of variations in the drafting and enforcement of domestic relations law and suggest guidelines for uniform sanctions and fair decision making.

#2. Establish a continuum of legal recognition to replace the absolute state of is-isn't regarding present marriage. Some guarantee of rights (together with the requirement of responsibility) must attach to intermediate points along the continuum. There should be more frequent invocation of the domestic relations court equity jurisdiction.

#3. The traditional concept of the family unit should be preserved as the accepted norm.

#4. There should be guaranteed representation of a child by Guardian ad Litem in divorce proceedings.

#5. The idea of a family relationship should be defined as family or extended family.

ISSUE: How can the present juvenile justice system be improved in order to strengthen the family?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

#1. The government acting for the common good should take prudent and appropriate action to protect the life and safety of any child.

#2. There should be available in each community a well funded locally administered probation and court services department. It should provide services for families and youth subject to standards which would assure quality counseling and other services.

#3. There should be an Advisory Board to the Juvenile Court made up of representative of agencies dealing with families and other interested citizens. This Advisory Board would propose and review the development of programs for families and coordinate existing services on the local level.

ISSUE: How can the present juvenile justice system be improved in order to strengthen the family?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

#1. The government acting for the common good should take prudent and appropriate action to protect the life and safety of any child.

#2. There should be available in each community a well funded locally administered probation and court services department. It should provide services for families and youth subject to standards which would assure quality counseling and other services.

#3. There should be an Advisory Board to the Juvenile Court made up of representative of agencies dealing with families and other interested citizens. Tnis Advisory Board would propose and review the development of programs for families and coordinate existing services on the local level.

TOPIC: Families and the Workplace

ISSUE: How can the negative impact on the family of poverty, racism, sexism and other forms of discrimination be alleviated?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the first priority for development of alternative employment practices be to support inner city working class and single *

2. Continuation of development of affirmative action to alleviate employment problems on both public & private levels.

3. ERA Should be ratified, thus making sex a suspect classification ratification.

4. No discrimination against someone because he/she is non-English speaking.

5. Government and private employees should provide educational opportunities in job preparedness.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Private and government employees are encouraged to work voluntarily toward elimination of pay differentials among jobs which *

2. The staff of the EEOC should be increased.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Employers develop programs to eliminate sexual harassment.

2. Strengthen apprenticeship entry programs for high school students.

3. 1980 U.S. Census data should be used with other information to evaluate the effect of current employment practices on families.

1. parent families.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS: (continued)

1. require comparable skills, abilities, and personal attributes.

Special Challenges

ISSUE: In what ways shall the needs of single parent families be met?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Individual families should have increased options in the allocation of resources to meet their needs.

2. It should be the policy of all government bodies to provide assistance for single parent families without jeopardizing two parent or extended family options; and judicial, legislative, and regulatory activities should support rather than supplant the natural capacity of extended families to help single parents in coping with life situations.

3. A commitment should be made to a policy of full employment, including those persons who are now excluded from unemployment statistics because of current counting procedure; to a policy of ending job discrimination against women; and to a policy of equal pay for equal work.

4. Child care options of all kinds shall be developed and encouraged as a support service to single parents and their children.

5. Local initiative should be encouraged in developing new models of service.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. A supplemental income is preferable to the addition of funding to the present categorical social welfare system.
2. Child care options should be available to single parents of all economic groups. These child care arrangements should stem from increased commitment and support from industry and places of employment, and from an adequate level of funding from government at all levels.
3. State and federal funds should be made available on a community level to community based organizations for innovative ideas and new initiatives.
4. A study should be made of attitudes of those who receive and those who administer public assistance in order to remove the nagative stigma attached to receiving assistance.
5. Legislation should be developed to end discrimination against single parents with children in the rental or purchase of housing.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Support legislation developed by COWL.
2. Increase funding and staff for EEOC to ensure that discrimination complaints are handled in a timely manner.
3. The result of the Family Impact Seminares should be used to eliminate those regulation and procedures that jeopardize two parent or extended family options.
4. Encourage development of self help groups by the development of clearing houses to integrate information, to promote training and technical assistance; of directories for the dissemination of information; of curricula for undergraduate and graduate training; of referral resources.
5. Encourage effective use of the media by: increased use of public service announcements, including themes in prime time programming, and ensuring that information releases are written in language intelligible to the consumer.

ISSUE: In what ways shall the needs of a teenage parent and his/her children who live in an extended family be met?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Individual adolescent families should have increased options in the allocation of resources: family life education, health, education, economics, social, legal.
2. Child care options of all kinds should be developed and encouraged as a support service to adolescent parents, their children and the extended family in which they reside.
3. Non-stigmatizing opportunities for the education of the teenage parent should be made readily available.
4. Job training and placement should be made available for single parents, including those under legal age.
5. Judicial, legislative, and regulatory activities should support rather than supplant the natural capacity of extended families to help teenage parents.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Teenage male parents should be incluced in counseling and service.
2. Child care options should be availabe to teenage parents of all economic groups. These child care arrangements shoul stem from increased commitment and support from industry and places of employment, and from an adequate level of funding from government at all levles.
3. State and federal funds should be made available on a community level to community based organizations for innovative ideas and new initiatives.
4. Courses and counseling in family life planning, alternative life styles, and career choices should be adopted as part of the required curriculum in public and alternative education.
5. Mandate compilation and dissemination of information about available services, including the access points, i.e. courts of law, social agencies, hospitals, clinics, schools.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Support legislation developed by COWL.
2. Review existing legislation and regulations to ensure that they support rather than supplant the natural capacity of the extended family in assisting teenage parents to cope with life situations.

3. Encourage development of self help groups by the development of: clearing houses to integrate information, to promote training and technical assistance; directories for the dissemination of information; of curricula for undergraduate and graduate training; of referral resources.

4. Encourage effective use of the media by: increased use of public service announcements, including themes in prime time programming, and ensuring that information releases are written in language intelligible to the consumer.

ISSUE: In what ways shall the needs of disabled persons and persons with catastrophic illnesses and their families be met?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Legislation, agencies, and programs should direct their efforts to the entire family unit, not just to the individual who is disabled or who is suffering from a catastrophic illness.

2. The rehabilitation case management system should involve disabled persons and their families more directly in the decision making regarding their care, treatment, and long range rehabilitation planning.

3. Mandated programs should be funded to the extent which they are mandated.

4. Special efforts are needed to promote equal employment opportunities for disabled persons.

5. Local initiative should be encouraged in developing new models of service and strengthening existing services

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Opportunities should be made available to the family to present itself in its entirety to the rehabilitation system at the earliest possible time.

2. The occurrence of catastrophic illness and disabling conditions requires services be delivered immediately for crisis planning and management as well as long term planning for family based and externally supplemented continuing care.

3. Use consumer involvement to identify gaps in planning resources for the physically, mentally, and emotionally disabled.

4. Compliance mechansims should be coordinated to enforce compliance with the state and federal laws regarding programmatic and physical accessibility to services for the disabled and catastrophically ill.

5. Programs to alter community and professional attitudes toward the chronically ill and the disabled should be implemented to avoid the fear, discomfort, and helplessness that are central to the avoidance of the ill and disabled, constituting an obstacle to the mobilization of family and community support and care. Programs of the same nature should be funded for the public education systems to strengthen the acceptance of handicapped students.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Develop clearing houses on self mutual aid groups and peer oriented support systems in every federal region of the country. They would integrate information, publish newsletters, provide training and technical assistance, sponsor conferences and workshops, and enable professionals and members of self help groups to learn from each other.
2. Provide support for the development of directories of self-help mutual aid groups and encourage agencies, community organizations, schools, both public and private, to disseminate these directories in order to make such groups more accessible to the public.
3. Find ways to develop curricula in all undergraduate and graduate training programs in the social, behavioral, educational, and medical sciences and professions on the nature and function of self-help mutual aid groups and other community support systems. The inclusion of such curricula should be considered an essential element in the accreditation process for approval status for graduate professional training programs in medicine, psychology, social work, nursing, pastoral counseling, rehabilitation, psychiatry and other related disciplines.
4. Monies should be made available to catalyze a citizen control and statewide strategy for the development of locally based peer oriented support networks, including self-help mutual aid groups, so as to develop information and referral resources available to agencies and the public.
5. Encourage effective use of the media by: increased use of public service announcements, including themes in prime time programming, and ensuring that information releases are written in language intelligible to the consumer.

TOPIC: Financial Policy

ISSUE: Need for welfare reform which supports individual and family efforts toward self-support, self-sufficient, self- determination, self-education and training.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Public financial assistance should provide adequate assistance and adequate and appropriately structured incentives to encourage personal independence and self-support.
2. Financial assistance should be provided at a level which will maintain dignity for individuals and families at an acceptable standard of living.
3. Financial and medical assistance and supportive social services should be available to all individuals and families in need as well as in crisis and without regard to artificial categorical requirements.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Review reorganization at the federal and state level should address the problems of and laws harmful to the family.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Appointment of a rotating Advisory Council including recipients for the purposes of reviewing existing programs to identify gaps.

ISSUE: The present tax structure penalizes the family. We support the revision of the tax structure to support the family.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Revision of sales tax on food and drugs by eliminating such tax.
2. Tax policy should encourage care for elderly and handicapped in the home.
3. There should be incentives & tax shelters for saving at all levels.
4. Deductions for children should be consistent with the CPI.
5. The marriage penalty should be revised.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS: IMPLIED IN THE POLICY RECOMMEMDATIONS

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It is proposed that model guidelines for the respective policies should involve citizens in advisory groups which propose implementation of the above policies.

ISSUE: Health promotion, preventive health care and home health care do not currently receive the same financial support as corrective services and as institutional health services.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Public policy should support adequate expenditures on health promotion and preventive health care as well as on corrective services.

2. Funding should support plans and patterns which are conducive to the family assuming personal and financial responsibilities for aging and/or disabled individuals outside the home.

4. Funding should support health care services which are sensitive to the diversity of cultural values in the U.S. and which support individual choice.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To promote education and information services as basic to health promotion and preventive health care.

2. Establishment of programs which will provide financial aid for families to maintain their fragile elderly outside institutional settings.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Provide local programs whichfocus on education of families in health maintenance and preventive health care.

2. Establish funding for services provided to indigent family members by family members or others which will make possible the retention of those individuals in the home and outside of the institutional setting.

ISSUE: How can employment practices help families?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Employers are encouraged to structure full time & part time working hours to accomodate family members' schedules & to provide benefits for comparable jobs.

2. Public and Private employers should consider flex time and experiment with job sharing and part time work.

3. Wage earners regardless of sex, age, or race, should receive same benefits.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Private employers should provide child care and cost should be borne by both employee & employer on a sliding scale basis.

2. Industry should be encouraged to locate work sites in impoverished areas, near labor market.

3. Creation of jobs in neighborhoods by Private employers to enhance family life.

4.

5.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Meaningful job training programs.

2. Alterative lifestyles.

3. Sexual orientation.

ISSUE: What should the government's responsibility be in regard to employment and its impact on the family?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Government should reinforce an employers' responsibility to provide a safe work place, including the monitoring of health hazards to persons of child-bearing age.
2. Government should provide tax incentives for industry to locate in ares of high unemployment.
3. Income tax and welfare laws should provide an economic advantage to the employed person.
4. Government should provide tax incentives to businesses that provide flex-time, child care, transportation, sick leave, etc.
5. Government should provide work opportunities for*

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Promote expansion of funding of Title 20 to meet child care needs of low income employed families.
2. Government provide adequate funding for programs for displaced homemakers.
3. Government provide Health, & Life Insurance for those who cannot afford or obtain it thru private insurers.
4. Social Security be revised so it does not discriminate against women who earn less than men.
5. Inform employers about concept of equal pay for work of comparable value as a means of reviewing and setting wages.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Support revisions of Social Security laws so that homemakers are credited with ½ of their spouses' Social Security benefits.
2. Support legislation to require pro-rated employment benefits for part-time workers.
3. Support legislation that would prohibit unwanted sexual contact as a criterian for employment decisions.
4. Government should devise a formula to audit jobs so that a statistical model for employers be established in support of comparable worth as a means of setting salaries.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS: (continued)

5. underdeveloped, inexperienced Americans in order to protect the home labor market.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS: (continued)

5. Support legislation which will allow pension benefits to "travel" with employees and provide the homemaker with direct information regarding survivor benefits in pension programs.

IOWA

FAMILIES AND ECONOMICS RECOMMENDATIONS

Rank	Recommendation	Times Recommended
1.	WE MUST RECOGNIZE THE ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF THE HOMEMAKER. IOWA LAW SHOULD BE CHANGED TO RECOGNIZED THE ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF A HOMEMAKER'S WORK AND GIVE THE HOMEMAKING SPOUSE EQUAL ACCESS TO THE FINANCIAL RESOURCES OF THE FAMILY.	93
2.	WE MUST DECREASE THE AMOUNT OF TAX COLLECTED ON SUCCESSION OR TRANSFER OF PROPERTY-IN BOTH THE FEDERAL ESTATE TAX AND THE IOWA INHERITANCE TAX AND ASSURE RECOGNITION OF A FARM WIFE'S CONTRIBUTION IN THE BUSINESS.	30
3.	STEPS MUST BE TAKEN TO CURB INFLATION,WHICH IS ONE OF THE MOST DESTRUCTIVE ELEMENTS AFFECTING FAMILIES. UNCURBED INFLATION IS CAUSING WOMEN WITH YOUNG CHILDREN TO WORK OUTSIDE THE HOME WHEN THEY WOULD RATHER NOT, IT IS NEGATIVELY AFFECTING YOUNG FAMILIES, ELDERLY FAMILIES AND DESTROYING SAVINGS OF ALL FAMILIES.	20
4.	Current tax structures must be changed which penalize dual earner married individuals. Wage earners should be taxed on the basis of earned income and not penalized because they are married.	16
5.	The tax structure must be changed to make it economically feasible for families to care for individual members in their homes, especially the handicapped or elderly.	4
6.	Steps must be taken to ensure full employment opportunities for all, as stable employment is one of the most important elements in family stability.	4
7.	There must be more financial assistance available for middle class families trying to meet college expenses.	
8.	The country must balance the budget in order to set a good example for families.	3
9.	One of the greatest needs of families is decent and adequate housing.	3
10.	A more equitable income tax system must be developed.	3

FAMILIES AND EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

1.	THERE IS A NEED FOR MORE PARENT EDUCATION AND OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN PARENTING SKILLS. THESE SKILLS SHOULD BE TAUGHT IN THE SCHOOL SYSTEM, IN COMMUNITY COLLEGES, ADULT EDUCATION, THROUGH THE CHURCHES AND THE COMMUNITY, TO PERSONS WHO WILL BECOME PARENTS AND THOSE WHO ARE PARENTS.	126
2.	A PARENTS' RIGHT TO CHOOSE A SCHOOL SYSTEM FOR THEIR CHILD MUST BE PROTECTED, AND THOSE PARENTS CHOOSING A NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM SHOULD NOT BE PENALIZED BY PAYING TWICE, AND NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEMS SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO FUNDS.	33
3.	PARENTS WOULD LIKE TO HAVE MORE CONTROL IN THE SCHOOL SYSTEM, INCLUDING REVIEW OF TEXTBOOKS AND CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION ON UNDERSTANDING THE TESTING AND GRADING SYSTEMS, AND A BETTER PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN PARENTS AND THE SCHOOLS.	27
4.	There is a need for more sex education in the school system.	24
5.	Prayer should be allowed in the public school system.	19

6. We are opposed to busing as it breaks up neighborhoods and causes undue stress. 10

7. Homosexuals should not be allowed to teach in the school system. 9

8. Families should have access to instruction on how to spend money wisely and balance the family budget. 8

9. We support programs for the talented and gifted in the public school. 7

10. There should be breakfast provided in the public school system to those eligible. 5

FAMILIES AND ENERGY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. WE MUST DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY PLAN TO INCLUDE INCENTIVES TO ENCOURAGE FAMILIES TO CONSERVE IN THEIR HOMES, TO PROVIDE TAX CREDITS FOR ENERGY-SAVING PRACTICES, TO ENCOURAGE SCHOOLS TO TAKE LEADERSHIP IN ENERGY CONSERVATION WITH TAX CREDITS WHEN THEY DO, AND TO PROVIDE A PLAN FOR NEEDS OF THE ELDERLY BEING FORCED TO CHOOSE BETWEEN HEATING AND EATING, AND A PLAN FOR UTILITY RATES. 9

2. WE MUST DEVELOP MASS TRANSIT SYSTEMS SUCH AS BIKE ROUTES AND SUBSIDIZED BUS ROUTES TO DECREASE DEPENDENCY ON THE CAR. 7

3. DEREGULATE THE OIL INDUSTRY. 2

4. Educate and prepare families now for the coming energy shortage so it does not cause undue stress and family breakups. 2

5. The government should purchase the state of Iowa's abandoned railroad tracks to develop bike trails as a way of providing inexpensive, healthful recreational opportunities for families. 1

6. We must coordinate and overlap existing services to save energy. 1

7. We must develop a plan to guarantee a healthy, ecological environmental system. 1

8. The public school should teach conservation, beginning in elementary school. 1

9. The government should control oil company profits through taxation or other means. 1

10. We should promote use of gasohol. 1

FAMILIES AND HEALTH RECOMMENDATIONS

1. WE MUST ENSURE AVAILABILITY OF FAMILY-PLANNING PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR THOSE WHO CHOOSE TO USE THEM, AND THERE MUST BE FUNDS ALLOCATED FOR RESEARCH TO DEVELOP SAFE AND EFFECTIVE MEANS OF BIRTH CONTROL. 179

2. WE MUST DEVELOP HOSPICE CARE WHICH IS A SPECIALIZED CARE PROGRAM THAT MEETS NEEDS OF TERMINALLY ILL PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES BOTH IN THE HOME AND IN HEALTH INSTITUTIONS. 36

3. THERE MUST BE MORE FUNDS AND SERVICES TO PROVIDE COMMUNITY-BASED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES THAT ARE CLOSE TO HOME, AVAILABLE TO ALL WHO NEED THEM AND PREVENTIVE IN NATURE. 34

4. The school system should provide comprehensive health education to include nutrition, substance abuse, emotional and social health, prevention and control of disease, environmental health, family life and health resources 10

5. All citizens should have access to quality health care and a preventive health maintenance system should be developed. 9

6. There must be more peri-natal care services available to pregnant women and women with young children, especially to single women and in rural areas. 6

7. We support a National Health Insurance Program. 5

8. We must make medical assistance and services available to low-and middle-income families. 4

9. We oppose National Health Insurance Programs. 4

10. We support natural family planning. 3

FAMILIES AND GOVERNMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. GOVERNMENT SHOULD REFRAIN FROM ASSUMING RESPONSIBILITIES AND FUNCTIONS THAT FAMILIES WOULD LIKE TO, ARE ABLE TO AND SHOULD BE CARRYING OUT. THERE SHOULD BE LESS GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT IN FAMILY LIFE. 35

2. GOVERNMENT SHOULD DEVELOP AND UTILIZE A FAMILY IMPACT STATEMENT AS A MEASURE THAT POLICIES, PROGRAMS, LAWS AND REGULATIONS ARE STRENGTHENING THE FAMILY. 22

3. THE LOCAL COMMUNITY, INCLUDING LOCAL GOVERNMENT, SHOULD INCREASE SUPPORTIVE AND PREVENTIVE PROGRAMS TO MEET NEEDS OF ITS FAMILIES. 10

4. The government should not be involved in any aspect of family life. 5

5. The community and self help groups should be encouraged as they are more effective than other assistance programs. 5

6. Communities should require that public buildings be used for recreational activities, for before-and-after-school programs and other activities. 3

7. There should be no interference in family life, except when a child is in physical danger or their safety is threatened. 3

8. There should be more local control of funds and services to insure better utilization meeting a communities' needs. 3

9. There should be an effort to establish neighborhood coops to share and exchange information, tools and resources. 3

10. Communities should develop congregation centers for the elderly. 3

FAMILIES AND LAW RECOMMENDATIONS

1. ERA
   PRO-ERA 345
   OPPOSED TO ERA 59
   (Both will be submitted as Recommendation 1)

2. ABORTION
   PRO-CHOICE 208
   ANTI-ABORTION 89
   (Both will be submitted as Recommendation 2)

3. WE RECOMMEND PASSAGE OF THE PAUL LAXALT FAMILY PROTECTION ACT WHICH ADDRESSES A NUMBER OF FAMILY ISSUES (HOMOSEXUALITY, ADOPTION, CHILD CARE, TAXES, SCHOOLS), AND SUPPORTS AND ENCOURAGES TRADITIONAL FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES AND CONCENPTS. 25

4. Minors should be required to have parental concent to obtain abortion or birth control. 21

5. Current divorce laws should be changed as they make divorce too easy and do not provide adequate protection for a non-earning spouse. 18

6. The state should support the Juvenile Justice Bill. 15

7. The state should not allow or legalize homosexual marriage. 15

8. Laws should balance the rights of the child with rights of the parents. 14

9. Social Security Laws must be changed to more equitably benefit the earning and non-earning spouse. 13

10. Women should not be drafted. 12

FAMILIES AND MEDIA RECOMMENDATIONS

1. T.V. IS DESTRUCTIVE TO FAMILY LIFE DUE TO TOO MUCH VIOLENCE, SEX, UNHEALTHY FAMILY MODELS PORTRAYED AS THE NORM. 26

2. T.V. PROGRAMS SHOULD PRESENT HEALTHY FAMILY MODELS, SHOW FAMILIES WITH CHARACTER AND MORE INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS SUCH AS HOME REPAIR, BUDGETING, CRAFTS, ETC. 23

3. PORNOGRAPHY ON T.V., IN NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES AND MOVIES SHOULD BE CURTAILED. 23

4. There should be outside control and censorship of T.V. if they don't start providing better programming. 8

5. The public should pressure and write sponsors in response to objectionable T.V. 6

6. There should be legislation to counteract monopolistic newspapers which print only one side of an issue or story. 4

7. The media should serve the community by being accessible, identifying biases and promoting public services. 3

8. There should be increased support for the Public Broadcasting Network. 3

9. There must be better programming for children's programs and advertising. 3

10. The public should write their local media and let them know when they object to or support programs. 2

FAMILIES AND RELIGION RECOMMENDATIONS

1. FAMILIES SHOULD RETURN TO RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND RELIGIOUS BASICS. 63

2. THE GOVERNMENT CANNOT AND SHOULD NOT INTERVENE IN RELIGIOUS UPBRINGING OF CHILDREN AS IT IS THE PARENTS' RIGHT TO IMPART RELIGIOUS VALUES TO THEIR CHILDREN. 34

3. WE OPPOSE THE SECULAR HUMANISM PHILOSOPHY IN SCHOOLS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS IN WHICH IT IS TAUGHT THAT MANKIND CAN SOLVE ALL OF ITS PROBLEMS WITHOUT DIVINE INTERVENTION. 14

4. There should be established a family night supported by church, school and the community to encourage families to stay together. 13

5. The government should reflect God's Law. 12

6. There is too much emphasis on self, too much belief in the philosophy of me-too-ism and not enough self-sacrifice and giving to others. 6

7. Religious communities rather than other groups should provide parent education. 4

8. Churches should provide social services to the community. 3

9. We must encourage greater use of the Bible. 3

10. Churches should provide and encourage marital and pre-marital counseling. 4

FAMILIES AND SOCIAL SERVICES RECOMMENDATIONS

1. PROGRAMS AND LAWS TO AID AND PROTECT BOTH THE DOMESTIC ABUSE VICTIM AND THE CHILD ABUSE VICTIM MUST BE DEVELOPED. THERE MUST BE MORE FUNDING TO RESEARCH THE CAUSE AND EFFECTS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE AND CHILD ABUSE ON THE INDIVIDUALS AND THE WHOLE FAMILY. 196

2. WE MUST DEVELOP PROGRAMS AND SUPPORTIVE MEASURES WHICH WILL ALLOW FAMILIES WITH A VARIETY OF SPECIAL NEEDS TO BE ABLE TO FUNCTION AS AN INTACT FAMILY AND CARE FOR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS IN THE HOME IF THEY CHOSE TO. THIS INCLUDES:
   A. SERVICES AND FUNDING FOR FAMILIES WITH PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN TO PROVIDE RESPITE CARE, PAYMENT FOR MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND ALLOW FAMILIES TO STAY TOGETHER.
   B. SERVICES AND DIRECT FUNDS SO ELDERLY FAMILY MEMBERS MAY REMAIN IN THEIR HOMES AND RECEIVE ADEQUATE MEDICAL CARE.
   C. PREVENTIVE AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FOR SINGLE PARENT FAMILIES.
   D. INCREASED COMMUNITY-ABSED SERVICES.
   E. INCREASED IN-HOME FAMILY-BASED SERVICES TO MEET NEEDS OF DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILIES.
   F. PROGRAMS TO MEET NEEDS OF PREGNANT ADOLESCENTS.
   G. PROGRAMS TO MEET NEEDS OF WIVES OF PRISONERS.
   H. PROGRAMS TO ENSURE ONLY LONG TERM PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN WHEN THEY MUST BE REMOVED FROM THEIR HOME. 86

3. THERE MUST BE PROGRAMS AND TRAINING AVAILABLE FOR THE DISPLACED HOMEMAKER WOMEN WHO FOR MANY YEARS WERE FULL-TIME, ECONOMICALLY DEPENDENT HOMEMAKERS WHOSE CAREER IS CLOSED TO THEM AS A RESULT OF DEATH, DIVORCE OR DESERTION OF THEIR SPOUSES SO THEY MAY CONTINUE TO BE PRODUCTIVE MEMBERS OF SOCIETY. 81

4. There should be fewer government handouts and more self-reliance on the part of families. 15

5. The basic needs of the AFDC family must be studied and met at the 100% level of need, with a built-in inflation factor attached to legislation. 13

6. There should be more marriage counseling and pre-marital counseling available to couples to ensure stable marriages. 12

7. Programs should be developed that decrease dependency and increase independency. 10

8. We must increase programs that deal with and prevent substance abuse. 8

9. There needs to be more research on the cause and effect of divorce on families. 5

10. Parents should be able to have input in professional staffings and treatment choices that affect their children. 4

81

FAMILIES AND THE WORKPLACE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THERE IS A NEED FOR ADEQUATE QUALITY CHILD CARE FOR PARENTS AND THERE IS A NEED FOR INDUSTRY TO DEVELOP ON-SITE CHILD CARE. 327 81

2. WE MUST ENFORCE LAWS WHICH ENSURE EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK. 116

3.	FLEX-TIME POLICIES MUST BE DEVELOPED IN THE WORKPLACE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF TODAY'S WORKING FAMILIES.	34
4.	Child care services should not be provided and mothers should stay home and take care of their own children.	25
5.	There should be job sharing opportunities available in the workforce.	23
6.	There should be maternity and paternity leave available without loss of benefits.	13
7.	There should be sick leave available for parents to use to care for a sick child.	12
8.	There should be more part time employment opportunities available without loss of benefits.	11
9.	We must support those persons who choose to work in the home 100% of their time, as a career, with financial and other supports.	10
10.	We must guarantee full employment opportunitites for all members of the workforce.	7

KENTUCKY*

Topic: Families and Income

Issue: How can the tax laws, programs and policies be changed to improve the conditions of families?

Policy Recommendations

(1) It should be the policy of the federal government to provide a more equitable social security system.

(2) The federal government should revise some of the income tax laws to make them more equitable.

Program Recommendations

Legitimate charitable expenditures to support needy members of the extended family should be encouraged by favorable tax recognition of the expenditures as a charitable deduction.

Social Security and pension programs should be updated in the following manner:

(1) That the federal government should support legislation and programs addressing the economic problems of aging women and equal pay for work of comparable value.

(2) That the federal government should support legislation and programs which guarantees a widow or widower or widower survivor's pension benefits regardless of when the working spouse died. (ERISA Improvements Act of 1979)

(3) That federal government should support legislation and programs which provides divorced spouses with an equitable share of the working spouse's retirement income offered by government retirement plans.

(4) That federal government should institute an earnings-sharing plan which allows persons covered by social security to maintain their own records of coverage through spouses who do pay into the system.

(5) That federal government should implement a social security program which treats fairly one-earner couples, two-earner couples and single individuals.

(6) That federal government should support legislation and programs to help displaced homemakers.

Issue: In what ways can public financial assistance programs be reformed at the state and national levels to strengthen low-income families?

Policy Recommendations

(1) Public assistance programs should be designed so that adequate financial assistance is available to all families who do not have enough income with which to live at a level deemed acceptable in our society.

(2) Adequate assistance should be defined in programs as an assistance equal to the poverty level established by the federal government for various sized families.

(3) Federal programs should be designed in order to provide the maximum amount of financial participation possible in federal/state jointly-financed and administered assistance programs.

Program Recommendations

(1) Government should eliminate inequities in Medicaid and Medicare for patients nursed after hospitalization so that assistance be given to family nursing in private homes.

(2) The benefit levels for Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program should be increased by action of the Kentucky General Assembly in its 1980 session, toward poverty level.

(3) The amount of money budgeted by the Kentucky General Assembly for the Crisis Oriented Program for Emergencies (COPE), for single persons or childless couples or couples whose children are over twenty-one, should be increased so that the program can be run on a year-round basis.

(4) The state funded Energy Cost Assistance Program (ECAP) should be continued for the coming 1980-82 biennium by action of the Kentucky General Assembly, with eligibility for the program expanded to include the population presently served only by the COPE.

(5) The Aid to Families with Dependent Children - Unemployed Parent Program (AFDC-UP) should be re-established in Kentucky General Assembly in 1980, by providing the Department for Human Resources with discretionary authorization to run the program. This would allow two-parent families to receive assistance without the primary breadwinner having to leave the home so that the remaining parent and children are eligible for the regular (AFDC) program.

(6) U.S. Congress should adopt a comprehensive welfare reform program which would eliminate all categorical assistance programs, and in their place, create one unified program to provide all families in need adequate financial assistance and income equal to the poverty level established by the Federal Government for various-sized families. In the interim, before this can be done, the United States Congress should pass the Carter Administration Welfare Reform Bill (HR 4904) which mandates that all states have an (AFDC-UP) program, and that a national minimum benefit level be established for the (AFDC) program which provides adequate fiscal relief to states to make these actions possible within existing state spending levels.

Topic: Families and Income

Issue: How can the effects of inflation on the elderly be ameliorated? It is recognized that inflation impacts adversely on all segments of society, however its impact on the majority of elderly persons is most severe due to their low income, lessened caring power, and/or dependence on a fixed income.

Policy Recommendations

(1) It should be the policy of the federal government to implement a program to control inflation.

(2) It should be the policy of the federal government that all elderly persons be assured of a living standard that is at least equal to the national poverty level.

Strategy Recommendations

(1) It is strongly recommended that all special interest groups unite in the country's efforts to solve the problem of inflation.

Topic: Families and the Workplace

Issue: How can employers be encouraged to provide "on-site" child development centers for their employees?

Policy Recommendations

(1) Employers should be encouraged to provide "on-site" child development centers for their employees.

(2) Employers employing more than 50 persons, who can demonstrate a need for child care, should be granted "seed money" in the form of grants, or loans, to establish on site child development centers.

(3) Financial savings being realized by the employers through increased productivity and attendance should be channeled back into the child development center program to pay the cost of specialized service, such as, staff, training, etc.

Program Recommendations

A model center should be set up drawing on the resources of agencies, trained volunteers, parents and professionals. Coalitions of employers should be encouraged to organize child development facilities that are easily accessible to their employees' working place where child development centers "on-site" are impracticable.

Strategy Recommendations

(1) Services provided through the child development centers should be made available at nominal cost, or as a fringe benefit to the employees.

(2) Media should be utilized to the fullest extent to make employers aware of the help, as well as the need to establish child development centers. Parents, unions, collective bargaining groups, concerned individuals, and other advocacy groups, should be encouraged to promote and request the establishment of "on-site" child development centers.

(3) Congressional delegations should be encouraged to sponsor, and vote for, legislation to set up revolving funds, grants or loans to encourage employers to sponsor the centers.

Issue: How can flex-time, part-time and job sharing be encouraged?

Policy Recommendations

Employers should offer alternatives to a rigid 40-hour-a-week schedule, such as flex-time, part-time, staggered working hours, and job sharing where possible.

Program Recommendations

Statutes and regulations shall be amended to provide for part-time and flexible time. Care should be taken to reduce exploitation of any employee in any job category.

Strategy Recommendations

(1) In the absence of collective bargaining agencies, employers should poll and consult with their employees for their opinion on reasonable alternatives to a rigid work week. Employees might suggest to employers that they experiment with alternatives, such as flex-time, staggered working hours, and job sharing. Implementation of these alternatives then would depend upon the outcome of the experimental phase.

(2) Lobbying strategies should be employed at state and federal levels to implement flex-time hours for appropriate services.

(3) Employers and employee groups should be encouraged to seek out other agencies that have experimented with flex-time, part-time, and job sharing to obtain information and guidance through sharing of information in the form of data and related material that may be useful in implementing flex-time, part-time, and job sharing.

(4) Media should be utilized to the fullest extent possible to make employers aware of alternatives to a rigid 40 hour work week.

Topic: Growth and Care of the Family

Issue: How can we strengthen the family as the primary social unit of our society?

Policy Recommendations

(1) The values of services and contributions of a homemaker should be recognized as equal partner in the family, both culturally and by the government.

(2) Family impact statements should be attached to all legislation at all levels of government.

(3) The social and economic situation of single head of households should be strengthened by the enactment and enforcement of laws and through increased social awareness.

(4) Supportive services to encourage individuals and/or families to develop faith in themselves and their own abilities and to assume primary responsibility for their own "growth and care" should be provided.

(5) Legislation to provide financial incentives at the state, regional and local level toward the development of services and programs directed toward keeping families intact.

Program Recommendations

(1) Social security regulations should be amended so that the homemaker accrues benefits and receives payments. (#1 policy)

(2) Property laws, inheritance and tax laws should be amended to admit the homemaker as a full partner in a marriage.

(3) All disciplines and agencies should work together to deal comprehensively with issues affecting families (#2 policy)

(4) State laws regarding the division of property upon the termination of marriage should be equalized, counting the non-monetary contributions of the homemaker and considering the earning ability of the homemaker. (#3 policy)

(5) The amount of child support should be determined by the abilities of husband and wife to contribute.

(6) Laws and procedures regarding collection of child support should be better enforced.

(7) Well-run and relatively inexpensive child care facilities should be available for single-parent heads of household.

(8) It should be the policy of government at all levels to promote interaction between older persons and couples or families. (#4 policy)

(9) Encourage care for family members within their own home through economic incentives and increased supportive services for the family including counseling, homemaker and health services within the home for terminally ill family members, especially children, handicapped family members and other family members with special problems. (#5 policy)

(10) Develop volunteer networks of representative organizations and agencies to identify needs and make recommendations on specific goals and objectives for policy and program development at the local level which would encourage family stability.

Strategy Recommendations

(1) Educate human and health service providers in attitude and vocabulary; provide programmatic emotional support to families.

(2) Intake information needs to guard against using labels or prejudicial vocabulary.

(3) All organizations that deal with family issues and problems, such as child abuse, teenage pregnancy, income maintenance, etc., should be sensitive to the place of the family in their specific programs.

(4) Concerned individuals should write their legislators.

(5) Develop media campaign to inform the public of the availability of supportive services for the individual and the family.

Issue: What can be done to educate, support and prepare family members to fulfill their roles and improve relationships within their specific family structure and promote enrichment within all family units?

Policy Recommendations

(1) Increased emphasis to parenting education should be given by education and social services programs for every stage of human development.

(2) Public and private agencies should work together to make available family and marriage enrichment programs.

(3) It should be recognized that government and private employers must allow sufficient time for employees to have family centered activities.

Program Recommendations

(1) Incorporate parenting knowledge and skills into prenatal clinics.

(2) Incorporate parenting education into subject curriculum within the public school system.

(3) Develop social service programs to promote family communication and recreation.

(4) Make available continuing parent education programs to adults.

(5) Mental health professionals, in public agencies and in private practice, with competence in family enrichment are encouraged to spend as much as twenty percent of their time in the area of prevention, such as conducting family and marriage enrichment programs.

(6) Ancillary helping professionals like those in Cooperative Extension, pastoral counseling and school counseling are encouraged to focus a portion of their time on enriching well families.

Strategy Recommendations

(1) The National Institute of Mental Health should maintain that every comprehensive Care Unit provide marriage and family enrichment program.

(2) Mount a media campaign to educate, support and prepare family members to fulfill their roles, including advertisements, public television courses and programming.

(3) The United States Department of Agriculture should recommend that family life specialists make available marriage and family enrichment programs for use by Cooperative Extension Agents.

(4) Conduct a National media campaign to encourage families to set aside one evening per week for family centered activities. Encourage business, industry and government to voluntarily set aside one evening per week where they would allow and encourage their employees to be home with their families by avoiding conflicting meetings, social activities, and overtime.

(5) Personal and business tax deductions to provide incentives for the above programs.

(6) Legislation is needed to make available research monies to conduct research on the effectiveness of enrichment programs to determine which types of programs work best for which families.

Issue: How should Family Life Education be made available in order to promote better family living?

Policy Recommendation

We propose the expansion of quality, responsible family life education, including parenting and coping skills planned by administrators, teachers, and parents; taught by trained professionals in family living for all students in all levels and on an equal basis.

Program Recommendations

(1) Every phase of an educational curriculum should reflect values of cooperation, caring, and tolerance which contribute to good family life, and in turn, produce competent citizens.

(2) Educational programs that deal with family life should be available at all educational levels, including the community.

(3) Family life curricula will include coping skills to deal with emotional crises and problems of family living.

(4) The family life program should be an ongoing integrated portion of the current educational experience.

Strategy Recommendations

(1) Federal/state/local/private agencies and professional groups should work with councils on higher education to assure that the preparation of programs for related professions include appropriate curricula/training in relevant aspects of teaching family life, parenting, and coping skills.

(2) Local school systems will develop in-service training for teachers in instruction of family life, parenting, and coping skills.

(3) State Departments of Education will develop guidelines for integration of family life, parenting, and coping skills in existing school programs.

(4) Local school boards will appoint advisory committees composed of parents, community leaders, teachers and students to oversee the plan for instruction of family life, parent, and coping skills.

(5) Federal/state/local funding will be provided for initial purchase of materials and training expertise.

(6) Community agencies will develop workshops for all segments of the community in family life, parenting and coping skills, and will strongly encourage participation.

(7) To enhance the incorporation of family life, parenting, and coping skills into the school program, and to facilitate good discussion and teacher/student relationships, class size should be kept as small as possible.

Topic: Families and Special Challenges

Issue: What should the role of the private sector and local, state, and federal government be in providing community-based support services for families with disabled members?

Policy Recommendations

(1) It should be the policy of local, state, and federal governments to acknowledge and be sensitive to the special stress placed upon families with disabled members. (Statistics show that the divorce rate among families with handicapped members is four times the national divorce rate.)

(2) It should be the policy of local, state, and federal government to maintain the disabled individual as an integral member of the family and home community to the maximum extent feasible.

(3) It should be the policy of the private sector, and local, state, and federal government to ensure that the civil and human rights of disabled individuals within a family are not violated.

Program Recommendations

(1) Transportation funds (state/federal) and other funds should be expended to provide public and private transportation for all disabled individuals on the basis of need.

(2) The state/federal government should subsidize day care centers with 24-hour availability which take disabled individuals.

(3) Financial support programs should be made available to families maintaining the disabled person in the home.

(4) A system of cash and tax incentives should be made available to encourage new construction and adaptation of existing public and private buildings to be free of architectural barriers.

(5) Federal/state government should enforce existing laws and regulations dealing with architectural barriers.

(6) Pre-vocational and vocational day programs for handicapped adults who are currently not able to enter the work force should be funded as provided in the Independent Living Center sections of the Rehabilitation Act as amended.

(7) Homemaking services for families with handicapped individuals should be expanded.

(8) Subsidized adoption, foster care and family care for disabled individuals should be expanded.

(9) Funding mechanisms to accompany the federal commitment to community services should be established for respite care and day care services for handicapped persons.

(10) Funding mechanisms should be established to allow the establishment of community-based residential services for individuals no longer able to remain in their natural homes. Funds presently expended for institutions (e.g., Title XIX) should be redirected to community-based services.

(11) Existing federal programs mandating community-based services or the least restrictive alternatives should be monitored and coordinated as to implementation.

(12) A review of existing laws and regulations should be undertaken with the object of eliminating dis-incentives to community based services within the natural home.

Issue: How can each family be assured that early screening, evaluation, intervention, and other needed services will be provided to each member?

Policy Recommendations

(1) It should be the policy of local/state/federal governments to acknowledge and be sensitive to the special stress placed upon families with disabled members.

(2) It should be the policy of local/state/federal governments to fund those programs/facilities providing early screening and intervention programs.

(3) It should be the policy of local/state/federal governments to coordinate services of/for children with special needs.

Program Recommendations

(1) Services should be based upon individual needs.

(2) Early screening records should only be used to educate and inform the family and then be destroyed.

(3) A review of early screening tools, techniques, and applications need to be made, and a determination made as to the most effective early screening mechanism adopted by the state.

(4) Appropriations of Maternal and Child Health funds, Title XIX funds, general fund dollars and other funding mechanisms for screening and early intervention should be increased.

Strategy Recommendations

(1) Through a federally-sponsored, media-oriented campaign, families must be made aware of the screening services available.

Issue: How can the elderly be assisted in their efforts to remain in their own homes or to live with other family members?

Policy Recommendations

(1) It should be the policy of the federal, state, local governments and private sector to financially support alternatives to institutionalization.

(2) It should be the policy of the appropriate governmental and private sectors to make available a continuum of community-based and in-home social services to the elderly.

(3) It should be the policy of the appropriate governmental and private sectors to make available a continuum of community-based and in-home social services to families to enable them to provide care for elderly members.

(4) All services should be available in both rural and urban areas and should be provided on the basis of need of the individual or family.

(5) All services should be provided in a manner to enhance the dignity of and to expand the choices of individuals and families.

(6) It should be the policy of the appropriate governmental and private sectors to encourage continued involvement of the elderly in activities of self-renewal and of contribution to community life through utilization of their knowledge and skills.

Program Recommendations

(1) Payments, either by direct cash stipend or by tax credit, should be given to extended or surrogate family members to make it financially feasible for them to remain at home, to provide needed care and supervision of the elderly family member or members. Such support, through prevention of institutionalization, would be not only cost effective but also would provide social benefits through improving the quality of life.

(2) Social Security reform is needed to adequately meet the needs of the elderly.

(3) Services should be provided to assist the elderly to remain in their own home. Such services should include but not be limited to:

   (a) Home health services (alcohol and drug abuse, services for the handicapped, home health aides, visiting nurses, comprehensive health screening);

   (b) Social services (Home repairs, chore services, homemakers, caretaker services, protective services, escort services, home delivered meals, telephone reassurance); and

   (c) Mental health services (training in community living skills, counseling).

(4) The development of social support system among neighbors and friends to deal with reciprocal personal care, errands, shopping, transportation, among the elderly themselves and generational groups should be encouraged.

(5) The development of alternative living and housing arrangements such as elderly sharing homes and expenses as units composed of different generations should be encouraged.

(6) Transportation systems should be developed, expanded and coordinated to enable the elderly to have access to necessary services and to maintain independent living.

(7) Services should be provided to assist families to care for elderly members. Such services should include but not be limited to: respite care, adult day care, support services, financial services, in-home and out-of-home sitter service, protective services.

Strategy Recommendations

(1) All funding sources should be explored by the appropriate state, local and private sectors to determine the most viable avenues for provision of the above programs.

(2) Federal and state legislation should be adopted to allow the development and funding of integrated service delivery systems for in-home and community based services for the elderly and their families.

(3) Appropriate public education regarding the needs of older persons, the services and funds available to assist them and their families should be developed at the state and local level.

(4) The development and funding of a case management system to ensure provision of services to the elderly must be emphasized at the appropriate state and local levels.

(5) Concerned individuals should contact their federal or state representatives and other high governmental officials as well as influential members of the private sector regarding their concerns about the need to maintain the elderly in their home environment.

Topic: Families and Crises

Issue: What can be done to prevent and reduce violence in the whole family, and how can support be provided for the victims in order to promote healthy family life in America?

Policy Recommendations

(1) It should be the national policy to consider family violence a crime against society rather than a private problem.

(2) It should be national policy to give high priority to the family as an intact unit.

(3) It should be national policy to establish an education and early detection system, and a system of supportive and protective social services.

Footnotes: (1) Rape is considered a crime against the state (society). Historically, it is a family situation, therefore it is a part of family violence.

(2) Marital status shall not affect the classification of crimes of violence nor affect prosecution of those crimes.

Program Recommendations

Fiscal legislative and technical support shall be provided for all of the following program recommendations:

(1) Educational professions should work with agencies to provide positive parenting skills for all ages.

(2) Since family abuse is a crime against society, local government and community agencies as well as federal and state government should:

(a) Support immediate shelters for victims of family abuse
(b) Support activities to prevent family violence
(c) Promote diagnostic and stable rehabilitation program.

(3) Programs should be available to provide counseling for victims and abusers.

(4) Train at least one law enforcement officer in each county to work with victims and perpertrators of family violence.

(5) Judicial, legal, law enforcement and social services assistance should be immediately available to abused spouses without their having to file for a divorce or agreeing to criminal prosecution.

(6) The President should appoint a Commission to draft a model family violence act which includes the policy and recommendations of the Conference on the issues for presentation to the states for their modification and adoption.

(7) Funding should be provided for the purpose of establishing empirical documentation regarding the level of abuse of the elderly in the United States.

Strategy Recommendations - General

(1) The recommendations of the Family Crises Workshop of the Kentucky White House Conference on Families shall be sent to: President of United States, Kentucky Congressional delegation, majority and minority leaders in Houses of Congress, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Education, Department of Labor and other appropriate government agencies and federal judicial bodies. State government: General Assembly leaders and appropriate committees, Department for Human Resources, Attorney General. Local: appropriate public and private agencies and the 27 Kentucky delegates to the White House Conference on Families.

(2) Individual participants of the Family Crises Workshop should send letters to the Steering Committee to encourage them to adopt the Family Crises Workshop issues verbati

(3) Members of this Family Crises Workshop act as coordinators in their local communities to implement the programs of the Workshop.

The White House Conference on Families' staff and interested persons and groups shall lobby at all legislative levels to adequately fund the program recommendations.

The White House Conference on Families' staff and interested persons and groups shall lobby at all legislative levels to provide emergency funding of shelters.

Endorsement of the Kentucky White House Conference on Families' Family Law Workshop's recommendation on family violence:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: THE KENTUCKY WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON FAMILIES WORKSHOP ON FAMILIES AND LAW REQUESTS THE KENTUCKY WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE WORKSHOP ON FAMILY CRISES AND FAMILY VIOLENCE TO INCLUDE AS A PORTION OF ITS RECOMMENDATION TO THE CONFERENCE THE FOLLOWING:

A. We recommend revising the laws regarding child abuse so that they are more realistic and will be enforced. We recommend

increasing by statute the social services and child advocate programs available to the families and victims of child abuse, in order to aid each person involved to return to a productive and normal life as rapidly as possible.

B. We recommend a revision of the present laws regarding Spouse Abuse to provide for a Protective Order for abused spouses to be obtained without first having to initiate divorce proceedings.

C. We recommend and support legislation to provide for funding for establishment of shelters for abused spouses and their children, for a public awareness program which would make their availability known to the public, and for some form of input by the public into the program.

Issue: What effective approaches can be developed to deal with all aspects of teenage sexuality and preparation for family life?

Policy Recommendations

(1) It should be national policy to provide appropriate fiscal and statutory support for comprehensive economic, educational/vocational, medical, social, and family planning and parenting services that will be accessible and available regardless of age.

(2) It should be national policy to require human sexuality and family life education be taught in all grades K-12 dealing not only with anatomy and physiology of sex, and family planning, but also with responsibility and maturity.

(3) It should be national policy to support family life education through all appropriate avenues--schools, churches, families, youth groups, community.

Program Recommendations

(1) Educate parents about psychology of adolescents.

(2) Insure that family planning services are available to adolescents to encourage responsible preparation for family life.

(3) Establish coalitions of all concerned agencies/organizations at both state and local levels.

(4) Establish linkages between the public and private agencies and organizations that offer services to teenagers.

(5) Provision of on-going services to support parents surrendering their child for adoption.

(6) Insure that where educational programs are instituted in schools, there should be opportunity for parental contribution and involvement.

(7) Establish comprehensive service centers to provide delivery of all services in policy recommendation #2 and to facilitate and coordinate such services where already available on a fragmented basis.

(8) Public funding, including extension and increase of funding under Title X of the Public Health Services Act, for all family planning options be available.

(9) Encourage the federal government to review all current governmental policies relating to this issue.

Strategy Recommendations - General

(1) The recommendations of the Family Crises Workshop of the Kentucky White House Conference on Families shall be sent to: President of the United States, Kentucky Congressional delegation, majority and minority leaders in Houses of Congress, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Education, Department of Labor and other appropriate government agencies and federal judicial bodies. State government: General Assembly leaders and appropriate committees, Department for Human Resources, Attorney General. Local: appropriate public and private agencies and the 27 Kentucky delegates to the White House Conference on Families.

Strategy Recommendations - Specific

The U.S. Department of Education should fund a national project to develop curriculum for sexuality and family life education in grades K through 12.

Topic: Families and Health

Issue: How can preventive health care (including health promotion, disease prevention, and early diagnosis and treatment of illness and handicapping conditions) be made more available and be focused upon the family as the fundamental unit of society?

Policy Recommendations

(1) Local, state, and federal governments should promote and design community health care programs which emphasize preventive care focusing on maintaining health.

(2) A national policy on comprehensive preventive health care should be established which emphasizes preventive medicine.

(3) Funding priority should be given to research in design, implementation, and evaluation of strategies in health promotion and disease prevention.

(4) National health policies must recognize the emotional as well as physical needs of those served.

(5) National health promotion policies must recognize the serious impact of alcohol and other substance abuse on health.

(6) Family-centered primary care programs are an essential factor in health promotion and disease prevention.

Program Recommendations

(1) Services to the total family need to be coordinated between agencies so that the family can be viewed as a unit which has value for all aspects of health and well being.

(2) Education programs should be expanded to increase public understanding of the desirability of primary preventive health care.

(3) Private and governmental insurance programs should provide the options of coverage for preventive services, collateral services, and services for problems of mental health and of substance and alcohol abuse.

Strategy Recommendations

(1) Bureau for Health Services should direct public health departments, comprehensive care centers, family service agencies, and drug and alcohol abuse programs to provide full services during evenings and weekends to accomodate family needs.

(2) Bureau for Health Services should direct public health departments, comprehensive care centers, family service agencies, and drug and alcohol abuse programs to provide collateral services to family members and other relevant persons.

(3) Training for personnel in health, mental health, family service, school counseling, substance and alcohol abuse programs should provide for an understanding of the interrelationship of these human problems.

(4) Programs in health, mental health, family service, school counseling, substance and alcohol abuse programs should collaborate in meeting the complex needs of clients and their families.

(5) Local, state and federal governments should give funding priorities to programs which provide:

(a) Full services on weekends and evenings
(b) Collateral services
(c) Comprehensive training for staff
(d) Inter-community collaboration in meeting complex needs of families.

(6) Kentucky State Department of Education should develop a health promotion and disease prevention curriculum to include:

(a) nutrition
(b) family life education
(c) Substance abuse
(d) health consumer education.

(7) Appropriate federal agencies should encourage media programming that promotes family health and discourages advertising injurious to family health.

Issue: What can be done to reduce the detrimental impact of long-term, acute, or recurring illness (i.e., physical illness, mental illness, infirmities due to aging, or handicapping conditions) of one or more family members upon the health and well-being of the entire family?

Policy Recommendations

(1) It should be the policy of Federal and State government to use more effectively and efficiently the funds available for training health support service personnel.

(2) It should be the policy of Federal and State government to ensure that health support agencies and personnel are effectively dispersed according to community needs.

(3) It should be the policy of the Federal government to support the development of home health services as a humane, cost-effective way of meeting health needs.

(4) It should be the policy of Federal and State government to encourage communication and training among local health service agencies, state health services agencies, and state funded institutions of higher education providing health services and training.

Program Recommendations

(1) The Council on Higher Education of the State of Kentucky should be directed to train more health support personnel such as physical therapists.

(2) Home health services should be expanded through a coordinated system which include homemaker, home-delivered meals and transportation as auxillary services.

(3) Local coordinating agencies (such as, Human Services Coordinating Alliance of Louisville) should be empowered to facilitate the cooperation of agencies in providing services.

(4) The Federal government should require that before any new specialty programs can be developed, an impact statement showing that the specialty agency has effectively established linkages with appropriate other specialty programs.

(5) More state and federal money presently available for training health support personnel should be used for inter-disciplinary training.

(6) State and federal funds presently available for health-related training should also include provisions for training paraprofessionals, volunteers and family members to make up a local health support system.

(7) The Federal government, working with the State of Kentucky, should re-examine whether Mental Health-Mental Retardation Boards are the most cost-efficient means of providing mental health-mental retardation services.

(8) The Federal government, working with the State of Kentucky, should re-examine whether state psychiatric and mental retardation facilities are the most cost-efficient means of providing mental health-mental retardation services.

(9) A system shou'd be developed establishing quality respite care programs (including care for the aged) which allows families a rest from the burdens and responsibilities of care.

(10) The special services and equipment program administered in the Bureau for Health Services, Division of Mental Retardation, should be expanded.

(11) A similar system of special services and equipment should be established for the mentally ill, physically ill and/or handicapped.

(12) Infant stimulation training programs should be made available for parents of handicapped children in every Area Development District.

(13) Health, mental health, and social service professionals should be trained to provide emotional support to affected families.

(14) Training should be provided for health, mental health, social service and educational professionals to obtain the skills necessary to provide education and to identify and treat alcohol (and substance) abuse. Open lines of communication between agencies also needs to be established so that cooperative and coordinated programs can be developed.

(15) A proactive alcohol abuse research center program should be established at one of the major universities (state?).

Topic: Families and Maternal/Infant Care

Issue: How can a family planning program be provided to all segments of the population? Programs which include medical and family counseling services and all aspects of comprehensive family life education (i.e., social, physical, mental and emotional) so that individuals will have the basis for a responsible choice.

Policy Recommendations

(1) Confidentiality of and privacy in the services provided to individuals should be assured.

(2) Freedom of choice of family planning services and contraceptive technology should be encouraged.

(3) Support for Title X and other legislative support funding (such as P.L. 95-626) should be continued. Such programs should pay for services in the context of a family oriented approach rather than in a limited medical framework.

(4) Coordination of family planning services with other maternal and child health services should be improved so that recipients of service have access to multiple services.

(5) Public and private financing for research in safe reproductive (fertility and infertility) technology should be supported.

Program Recommendations

(1) Courses in family life education, including but not limited to sex education, family planning and parenting, should be available in local communities through a coordinated effort of parents, schools, community organizations and other related service providers.

(2) Public information and support systems should be provided through a coordinated effort of community and other agencies to encourage parents to become primary sex educators in the home.

(3) Existing family planning services should be coordinated and expanded in order to increase services to adolescents and to increase the adolescent population served.

Issue: How can all individuals have access to improved, comprehensive paternal, maternal and infant care?

Policy Recommendations

(1) Quality pre and post-natal care should be planned on an individual basis.

(2) Adequate prenatal facilities and services should be provided for all individuals.

(3) Advanced medical practices and technology should be available if needed.

(4) Medical practices which lessen fetal and maternal risks should be encouraged.

(5) All women should have equal access to safe, legal abortion when deemed necessary by a physician to promote maternal health.

(6) Comprehensive neonatal and pediatric care should be available to all segments of the population through the first year of life.

(7) Encourage obstetrical deliveries be confined to hospitals, but support the availability of safe, alternative birthing centers.

(8) The provision of support systems (such as prepared childbirth, bonding, rooming-in, breastfeeding, and parental support) for pre and post-natal care should be encouraged.

(9) Reasonable and adequate paternity and maternity leaves should be provided all parents.

(10) Comprehensive infant screening, specialized stimulation programs and parent support services should be funded and implemented.

Program Recommendations

(1) Adequate non-fragmented pre and post-natal care should be available with particular emphasis on teenage pregnancy.

(2) Health care facilities should provide policy statements which encourage freedom of choice in pre and post-natal care for prepared childbirth, bonding, rooming-in, and breastfeeding.

(3) Prenatal education in birthing options, feeding practices, developmental care and support groups should be provided by all health practitioners for all prospective parents.

(4) A constant, close relationship among mother, father and infant to ensure successful bonding from birth should be encouraged.

Topic: Families and Child Care

Issue: How can universal access to appropriate child care for all children, with trained staff, working as a team with families, be provided with a variety of choices (family, community, industry, private/public support)?

Policy Recommendations

(1) It should be national policy that all children, of all ages, have access to affordable, appropriate, quality care throughout the year.

(2) Child care centers are, and should be, licensed by the state.

(3) The federal government should facilitate the state's development of a registration for day care homes.

(4) Federal and state governments should subsidize quality child care programs where appropriate.

(5) States should be encouraged to establish registration systems as alternatives to licensing for home-based care for six children or less.

(6) Administration of child care programs should remain with the social and health services.

(7) The federal government should enact legislation which provides tax incentives for employers to establish on-premise child care services for working parents or guardians.

Program Recommendations

(1) That those directing the program for children in child care centers be required to have as a minimum, high school equivalency and specialized training in understanding and meeting the individual needs of all children and in working with families.

(2) The states should be responsible for the provision of training for child care staff and should develop incentive programs to encourage participation and training.

Strategy Recommendations

(1) Child advocacy groups must work together to promote legislation to establish a national child care policy.

(2) Labor leaders and industry, where appropriate, should be encouraged to provide child care services under their next contracts.

Issue: What are the roles, responsibilities, and benefits for family, community, state and federal government in respect to quality child care for all children?

Policy Recommendations

The responsibility for implementing national policy should be local. Community-based care, utilizing all available resources, with strong family involvement, should be available to children of all ages (with special emphasis on infants, school-age, respite, and 24-hour emergency care).

Program Recommendations

To establish innovative community-based programs utilizing existing facilities such as industry, schools, private centers, recreation centers, libraries, churches, etc. and employing senior citizens and older teenagers.

Strategy Recommendations

Local government and concerned citizens should meet to establish possible linkages and areas of shared interests and responsibilities for child care.

	ROLE	RESPONSIBILITY	BENEFITS
Family -	(1) Primary role as caregiver	(1) Payment based on net income and number of children	(1) Potential life style improvement
	(2) Participate in Policy and program implementation	(2) Increase parenting skills	(2) Security
			(3) Improved care for child
			(4) Optimum development of child
			(5) Family becomes better nurturers
Community -	(1) Insures variety of services from church, unions, industry, family	(1) Local level task force of informed people to monitor and enforce standards as developed by the community based and federally established uniform minimum guidelines	(1) Better place to live
	(2) Coordinate various existing programs.		
State -	(1) Licensing of child care centers	(1) Provide family impact statement for all legislation	(1) Income taxes
		(2) Oversee/assist in training staff and caregivers	
Federal -	(1) To see that uniform quality child care is provided	(1) Establish uniform minimum guidelines	(1) Better citizens
		(2) Provide matching funds	(2) Increase GNP
		(3) Implement tax incentives	

Issue: How can we eliminate the following barriers to permanency planning for children placed in foster care: (1) unplanned long-term foster care, (2) the additional and sometimes extraordinary costs to citizens who want to adopt special-need children, and (3) the shortage of permanent and loving parents to adopt waiting special-needs children?

Policy Recommendations

(1) The government is urged to develop policies and programs consistent with the following premises:
   (a) Children have a right to a stable, permanent, and loving home.
   (b) Children placed in foster care and their biological parents should receive immediate, intensive, and on-going services to restore the family unit.
   (c) Children who cannot return to their families-of-origin should be legally freed for adoption in an expeditious manner.
   (d) All special-needs children awaiting adoption are adoptable and should have a permanent home.

(2) It should be the policy of state government to develop procedures to review every foster child's case to insure proper case planning for moving the child into a permanent home.

(3) State government should provide sufficient social services staff to responsibly discharge their duties to foster child, foster parents, parents-of-origin, prospective adoptive parents, and support services to adoptive parents and the adopted children.

(4) Government policy should promote permanence as its primary obligation for all children placed in foster care.

(5) Federal legislation should be enacted with matching funds available to the states to provide financial support to prospective adoptive parents for all special-needs children including teenagers who would not otherwise be adopted.

(6) Adoptive parents and adoptive parent/citizen groups are excellent resources for the recruitment of prospective adoptive parents and for the provision of support prior to and subsequent to the adoption of special-needs children.

Program Recommendations

(1) Every foster child's case should be reviewed either by the courts or an independent administrative body. Such review should be mandatory, every six months and external to agency review procedures.

(2) The federal government should require state government to document the existence of a case-by-case external review procedure in order to continue to qualify for Title IV-B and Title XX foster care and adoption funds.

(3) State government should hire and/or maintain well trained and an adequate number of social services staff consistent with standards of such organizations as the Child Welfare League of America, in order to prevent unmanageable caseloads for family services, foster care services, and adoptive services prior to and subsequent to adoption.

(4) A national Bill of Rights to Permanence should be developed to insure the same civil rights for foster children as held by all children.

(5) Additional professionally trained social workers should be hired by the Department for Human Resources to work full time in the Special Needs Adoption Project (SNAP). Black social workers are especially needed for this project and should be recruited to assist in outreach to prospective black parents in addition to other responsibilities.

(6) The media should be extensively used throughout the Commonwealth to profile special-needs children and how they may be adopted. Specifically, programs like "Sunday's Child" in the Boston Globe or "A Child is Waiting" in the Detroit News, wherein special-needs children are honestly and forthrightly featured, should be considered for newspapers in the Commonwealth. Television and radio, of course, are ideal for communicating the joys of parenting a child who also happens to have special needs.

(7) Photolisting of every special needs child and an accompanying brief biography should be made available to every local Bureau for Social Services' office and other agencies that provide adoption services.

(8) Congress should enact legislation providing federal aid to subsidize adoptions for difficult to place special needs children.

(9) Adoption subsidies should not be based on family income but rather on the needs of children who might otherwise not be adopted without the subsidy.

(10) Purchase of service contracts between public and private agencies should be funded at the full cost of providing adoption services.

Strategy Recommendations

Child advocacy, adoptive parent, and foster parent organizations as well as other concerned citizens should work together to achieve the following recommendations.

(1) The implementation of an external review process for all children placed in foster care will require legislative advocacy if the intent is to establish a system of foster care review boards throughout the state. To implement an independent case monitoring project under the auspices of the district court, such as the Concern for Children in Placement project, will require meeting with district court judges urging them to implement and fund the project.

(2) Working with other state and national organizations a Bill of Rights to Permanence can be developed.

(3) Members of the General Assembly should be contacted urging them to develop regulations restricting the maximum size of caseloads for social service workers. Public hearings, use of the media, and reports may all be necessary to document the often times irreparable harm to foster care children and their families when workers are overburdened with unmanageable caseloads.

(4) The Governor, Secretary for the Department for Human Resources, and members of the General Assembly should be contacted in order to advocate for increased funding to hire additionally professionally trained social workers for SNAP, to commit additional resources to involve more citizens in the adoption process for special-needs children and to publicize SNAP and the availability of special needs children throughout the Commonwealth.

(5) Adoptive parent groups should continue to work with and expand their liaison relationship with local BSS offices to enhance the adoption process for children with special needs.

(6) Congress should be contacted encouraging them to pass enabling legislation to provide subsidies to special needs children who would not otherwise be adopted.

(7) The public should be educated throughout the Commonwealth regarding the availability of some subsidy money, the need for more subsidy support from the state and federal governments, and the opportunities for concerned citizens to adopt special needs children.

Topic: Families and Major Institutions

Issue: In what respects should government at all levels be more accountable for impact on individuals and families?

Policy Recommendations

There should be fiscal and program accountability at all governmental levels.

Program Recommendations

(1) Promote policies which encourage local and community responses to issues directly affecting the welfare of families in order to encourage flexibility and sensitivity to local community needs, and imagination in the development and implementation of programs to solve the intended problems.

(2) Require that child and family impact data be submitted and considered with any proposed legislation or regulations that will affect families and children.

Strategy Recommendations

(1) Congress shall assign its committees the responsibilities of preparing child and family impact statements.

(2) Programs serving parents and children even though requiring public funding should be provided by community agencies closest to the family wherever possible. The government role would be that of funding and monitoring to assure quality services were actually being provided.

(3) The public review processes (such as A-95) should be strengthened to insure a broad representation of local citizens input.

(4) A thorough study should be made, and needed reforms initiated, to determine how the many existing programs, laws, and regulations are adversely affecting the family.

(5) Creation of youth councils in local communities where youth can take the initiative and assume responsibility for programs they feel are important and can be represented in groups of adults working on youth problems.

Strategy Recommendations

Concerned citizens are urged to:

(1) Develop coalitions among a wide variety of community groups including youth organizations.

(2) Educate and influence state legislatures to take appropriate action.

(3) Write their Congressmen and Senators to support remedial legislation.

Issue: In what ways can present juvenile justice policies be revised to insure that:

(a) The "least intrusive" treatment is provided for children at risk
(b) Youth in need of detention are housed in appropriate facilities
(c) Co-mingling of non-delinquent with adjudicated delinquents or adult criminal offenders is prevented
(d) Status offenders and their families are helped to work together outside the court process to resolve their interrelated problems?

Policy Recommendations

It should be the policy of the Federal government to:

(1) Enforce the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, as amended, so funds will be denied states which are not meeting their commitment under the Act; and enact legislation providing financial assistance for construction of juvenile detention facilities that are in compliance with the Act.

(2) Adopt Standards relating to juvenile detention criteria and facilities, non-criminal misbehavior and dispositions which are consistent with the standards developed by American Bar Association and the Institute of Judicial Administration.

(3) Give financial assistance to state and local governments for the development of community based programs for status offenders in lieu of court involvement.

(4) Provide assistance to local communities in developing programs which coordinate the efforts of those groups working with status offenders and their families (schools, police, social service agencies, churches, volunteer youth and adult groups).

(5) Financially assist state and local governments to develop programs which will realistically train youth to be self-supporting.

Program Recommendations

(1) Development of a continuum of non-coercive alternative services for juveniles who do not require secure detention (emergency shelters, group homes, home detention).

(2) Development of small appropriate detention facilities for those juveniles who require detention.

(3) Development of crisis intervention centers for families and youth.

(4) Increase government funding and program assistance to local communities for alternatives to regular schooling.

Issue: How can we assure quality and equality in education?

Policy Recommendations

Parents, teachers, administrators, businesses, community and government collectively and continuously must identify all education related issues that affect various types of families presently and in the future. They must also develop and implement quality programs and/or services which address various needs as they arise.

Program Recommendations

(1) Focus attention on full implementation of current state and federal mandates to provide quality and equality in educational opportunity suited to the needs of all types of families. (Mandates including but not limited to drug abuse, alcohol, sex education, P.L. 94-142, Title IX, prevocational and vocational education.)

(2) Encourage and support appropriate agencies to provide comprehensive education-training in the development of positive relationship skills.

(3) Coordinate and direct community service agencies to become responsible for compliance with current state and federal mandates addressing education related to but not a part of public school education.

(4) Provide adequate funding to implement programs already mandated, future mandates must include adequate funding for implementation.

Strategy Recommendations

(1) Local control and monitoring systems to assure that programs meet the needs in the specific community.

(2) Coordination of local community services with the public school systems to eliminate unnecessary duplication and assure a comprehensive educational system that serves the needs of all types of families.

(3) Lobby for/sponsor legislative action which would fully fund mandated actions.

(4) When local agencies anticipate grant development activity, such activity shall involve communicating advance time tables and other pertinent data to grassroots representatives to allow input during initial stages.

(5) That agencies which seek consumer input in the planning or evaluation of their services give particular attention to the constraints of time of day transportation needs for child care and isolation of consumer groups from one another in encouraging consumer input.

(6) That pre-service and in-service staff development in the skills of interpersonal relationships be provided for leaders in agencies such as (Voc. Ed., job training, public school teachers, basic ed/GED, mental and physical services.)

Topic: Families and Community Resources

Issue: How can community resources be better utilized to improve the quality of family life?

Policy Recommendations

(1) The community should be enabled to identify family needs.

(2) The community should be enabled to mobilize and strengthen existing resources.

(3) The community should be enabled to secure other needed resources.

Program Recommendations

Government legislation and guidelines should encourage community volunteer efforts, community delivery systems and family support systems.

Strategy Recommendations

(1) Various models of coordination of services exist, and a local community should develop that model best suited to the community.

(2) Needs assessments and resource identification should be conducted in a systematic and valid manner.

(3) Based upon the unmet needs identified in the community, resources will be developed including:

(a) Use of volunteers.
(b) Full utility of community facilities, such as schools, senior citizen centers, etc.

(4) Federal, state and local government laws and regulations regarding housing should be flexible enough to enable local communities to develop housing and improve existing housing to meet each particular communities family needs.

LOUISIANA

Louisiana sent a state report which included a portion of its districts. They were unable to send us a summary of all the districts. As a result of the length of the report and absence of a summary report, we are unable to include the report.

Priority #3 TOPIC A -- Religion, Moral Issues and Values - A Framework for Individual and/or Family Decisions

Families and Major Institutions

ISSUE 1 -- How should we protect the family's religion and/or values?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. Community organizations are urged to provide resources for families to develop and strengthen their values.

b. Prior to passage, a law should be evaluated as to the impact on religious and cultural values.

c. The government should establish methods which allow families, the community and/or consumer groups to impact government programs in order that they be consistent with local needs.

d. Public education should support family values.

Program 1 - Parents should have the right to exempt their children from certain topics which are inconflict with their family values.

Program 2 - Controversial topics should be elective.

e. Establish additional methods which allow families, the community and/or consumers to increase their impact on mass media.

Families: Challenges and Responsibilities

ISSUE 2 -- How is the sexual revolution affecting the family?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. Government should recognize and promote equal opportunity regardless of sex.

b. There is a need to promote responsible sexual behavior.

c. The marriage commitment should be recognized and promoted as the proper basis for sexual union.

Families: Challenges and Responsibilities

ISSUE 3 -- In what ways can we clarify who has the right to decide life and death issues such as conception, abortion, infanticide, euthanasia, death and dying, and capital punishment?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. Life and death issues are so vital and rooted in values that the government cannot select one view.

Priority #8 TOPIC B -- Diversity in Family Forms and Circumstances

Families and Human Needs

ISSUE 1 -- How can ethnic, cultural, and religious traditions be preserved and maintained in the family framework?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. The family should be defined as two or more persons related by blood, marriage, adoption or foster care relationships.

b. Encourage the school systems throughout the state to use multi-ethnic and multi-racial materials extensively in their curriculum, K-12.

c. Human service providers, especially first-line staff, should be sensitive to and given orientation regarding cultural diversity among families and individuals.

d. Parents and educators should encourage the exploration of individual families' heritage and customs.

Families and Major Institutions

ISSUE 2 -- How can we encourage families to help themselves?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. Human service providers (medical, educational, child care, social) should be encouraged to establish goals which foster independence rather than dependence.

b. Departments of Welfare and their local equivalents should be encouraged to develop policies for special supports which enable individuals and families to move from economic dependency to self-sufficiency without financial penalty.

Program 1 - Medical assistance benefits should be continued for a six-month period for those who leave AFDC assistance for employment.

Program 2 - Expand a state-wide sliding fee scale for those leaving AFDC who need child care.

c. Provide quality employment and training and education programs.

d. Strengthen informal support systems.

Families and Economic Well-Being

ISSUE 3 -- How can the public and private sector adjust employment and benefit procedures to alleviate the double responsibilities of the single working parent?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. Employers should be encouraged to implement personnel policies that provide proportional benefits to part-time employees.

b. Employers should be encouraged to provide or subsidize, individually or cooperatively, quality child care.

Priority #2 TOPIC C -- The Parenting Role

Families and Human Needs

ISSUE 1 -- How can persons be adequately prepared for and supported in their parental role?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

a. Parent education and parent support programs should be a priority for religious institutions, community and private agencies, and the public educational system.

b. Pre-parenting curriculum should be available in all educational institutions.

c. It should be the policy of local social service and health agencies to offer incentives to teen parents for participating in parenting programs.

Families and Major Institutions

ISSUE 2 -- How can government practices, policies and laws, community institutions, and societal traditions support the rights and responsibilities of married couples and parents?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. The legislature should provide the appropriate number of judges and court support personnel to adequately meet the needs of families in a timely fashion.

b. Governmental laws and programs should recognize that parents have the primary right and responsibility for the care of their children. Government response to parental abuse of these rights and responsibilities should be one of support and help in solving the problem rather than termination of parental rights.

Families and Human Needs

ISSUE 3 -- How can Day Care and Foster Care support the parenting role?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. The legislature should ensure adequate availability of day care for those in economic need and provide the mechanism for the supervision of licensing and/or renewal of license procedures to ensure quality day care.

b. Legislatures should provide adequate incentives for alternate day care which would be the choice of the parents such as child care in ones own home or in the home of relatives.

c. Parents should have the right to decide what kind of day care they prefer.

d. Foster homes need to be funded sufficiently by the federal and

state governments to meet the necessary costs of providing for the children under their care.

e. Social service agencies should recognize the special role of foster parents and provide them with adequate foster parenting education.

(Original Item f. moved to Topic D, Issue 1.)

f. Employers should assist employees in making child care available.

Priority #4 TOPIC D -- Supportive Interventions and the Family Under Stress

Families: Challenges and Responsibilities

ISSUE 1 -- How can in-home supportive services be given a higher priority for funding and programming as a viable option for handicapped and aging members?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. Social service agencies should raise income eligibility levels to make more families eligible for in-home support services such as home health aides, homemaker services, physical equipment, personal care, home adaptations and respite care.

b. The Federal Government should give tax credits to families who care for handicapped and elderly in their homes.

c. The Federal Government should allow an income tax deduction for contributions to a trust established by a taxpayer to provide care to such taxpayer's elderly or handicapped relatives.

d. The government should provide benefits to assist natural families to keep their dependents with special needs at home rather than placing them in institutions or foster families.

Families and Major Institutions

ISSUE 2 -- How can support systems be more constructive in relating to single parent families working toward economic and emotional independence?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. The mandatory work policy for mothers on AFDC should be eliminated.

b. Neighbor support systems (child care, sick care, etc.) should be improved through community development money, churches and schools.

c. There should be a policy for improved enforcement of child support laws.

Families and Major Institutions

ISSUE 3 -- How can support systems be developed to attain a family focus in cases of physical, chemical, psychological and sexual abuse?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. The legislature should make more funding available for shelters around the state with a focus on family and family counseling.

b. For families under stress, expand the range of services, support systems and resources especially in rural areas, and make these services widely known.

c. Resolutions of individual problems should be considered within the framework of the family system.

Program 1 - When problems can be solved on a family level, the family council approach should be used, recognizing that the family is strengthened through problem solving.

d. Family support groups and organizations such as churches, Scouts, 4-H, YMCAs, etc., should recognize the value of and offer family activities in addition to individual participation.

Priority #7 TOPIC E -- The Roles, Rights, and Responsibilities of Children, Youth and Young Adults

Families: Challenges and Responsibilities

ISSUE 1 -- In what ways can we improve children's opportunities to obtain necessary life skills for adulthood?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. Parents should assume responsibility for ensuring that their children obtain necessary life skills for adulthood.

b. Young people have the right to receive and the responsibility to seek the skills necessary to read, write and compute, competently manage financial affairs, and efficiently seek and present themselves for job interviews.

Program 1 - High schools should establish a competency evaluation system to make it possible for students to verify their competencies.

Program 2 - Schools should establish a curriculum to train students in personal financial affairs management.

Program 3 - Schools should establish a curriculum to train students to effectively seek and present themselves for job interviews.

c. It should be the goal of parents and the policy of schools to instill in children a desire to be a lifelong learner.

Program 1 - Schools should establish methods of teaching which allow a student to feel a sense of accomplishment and pleasure with learning.

d. Schools should provide relevant education programs that are culturally and racially sensitive and non-sex-role stereotyped to meet the various needs of young learners, whether they are gifted, average, or have special needs.

e. Provide tax incentives for businesses to encourage the hiring of youth for on-the-job training.

f. Encourage unions to provide a non-dues-paying junior apprenticeship program.

Families: Challenges and Responsibilities

ISSUE 2 -- How can we enhance a child's opportunity to acquire family life education respecting each family's values.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. Churches should take a leadership role in providing family life education.

Program 1 - Establish an ongoing program in schools and churches to assist parents in understanding sexuality and communicating this with their children.

Strategy - Concerned individuals are urged to discuss with and encourage churches to take a leadership role in providing family life education.

b. Schools should provide sex education classes for children kindergarten through grade twelve on an elective basis after the opportunity for parental review.

Program 1 - Establish an opportunity for annual involvement of parents in reviewing school sex education programs.

c. Schools should provide education for parents to help them communicate about sexuality with their children.

d. It should be the policy of schools to provide students with the opportunity to understand the practical aspects and responsibilities of marriage and parenthood.

Program 1 - Establish curricula in schools which provides students with the opportunity to learn the practical aspects and responsibilities of marriage and parenthood.

Families: Challenges and Responsibilities

ISSUE 3 -- How can child abuse, incest and neglect be prevented?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. All community members (peers, adults, schools, churches and other organizations) should work to understand, inform, prevent, detect, and report family violence, sexual assault, and neglect.

Program 1 - Establish a coordinated effort throughout every community to inform children and adults about what legally constitutes family violence, sexual assault, and neglect; where they can go for help.

Strategy - Concerned individuals and appropriate authorities and agencies are urged to establish informative programs.

Priority #6 TOPIC F -- Promotion of Healthy Families Through Community and Educational Resources

Families and Major Institutions

ISSUE 1 -- How can family-oriented entertainment, educational, and recreational opportunities become a community priority?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. In addition to activities designed for specific age groups, church, community, and volunteer organizations should feature activities and events for the whole family.

b. State and local governments should develop convenient and accessible recreation areas for whole-family use.

c. Families, community and educational organizations should designate one night as family night.

d. Community agencies should arrange car pools or other transportation for those who need it.

e. There should be adaptive recreation programs for handicapped individuals in every community.

f. Local media resources should be involved in planning and promoting a community focus on family.

Families and Human Needs

ISSUE 2 -- How can community support systems for marriage be improved?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. Churches and community agencies should offer pre-marriage and marriage counseling service.

b. Federal and state government should re-examine the tax structure and support changes conducive to marriage.

Families and Human Needs

ISSUE 3 -- In what ways can community spirit help the family?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. Community agencies and organizations should develop and promote neighborhood projects, festivals, and cooperative efforts.

b. Community agencies should facilitate self-help, group therapy, and community improvement activities.

Priority #10 TOPIC G -- Aging, Retirement, and Extended Life Expectancies

Families and Human Needs

ISSUE 1 -- How can we assist elder persons in attaining an adequate standard of living which allows them to live with dignity?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. The federal government should continue improvements in the Social Security system so as to provide coverage for elder persons, particularly homemakers and married couples.

b. Appropriate governmental bodies should provide low-cost, adequate, quality transportation.

c. Businesses and services, especially utility companies (gas, electric, telephone), should be encouraged to establish low-income elder person discounts.

Families and Human Needs

ISSUE 2 -- In what ways can quality health care (considering all factors that affect one's health) that is accessible, affordable, and personal be provided to elder persons?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. Catastrophic health care and full Medicare coverage should be provided to prevent financial disaster for elder persons.

b. Supportive services should be provided which enable the older person to maintain independent living arrangements.

Families and Human Needs

ISSUE 3 -- How can the attributes and strengths of elder persons be affirmed and enhanced as creative human resources for the entire society?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. Social service agencies, churches, community organizations and senior groups should be encouraged to foster contact between generations through programs such as Foster Grandparents, intergenerational family enrichment, cross-age counseling and programs.

b. Communications media and educational institutions should be encouraged to reject negative age stereotypes and portray elder persons as valuable members of society.

Priority #5 TOPIC H -- Family Health

Families: Challenges and Responsibilities

ISSUE 1 -- How can we maintain and develop health care to families at an affordable cost for all?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. Educational institutions should take the responsibility for teaching good health habits, nutrition, and the other elements of holistic health.

b. The medical profession should take a leading role in teaching families to understand bodily functions and preventative health measures.

c. The media should be used as a means of disseminating nutrition and health information.

Families and Human Needs

ISSUE 2 -- How can we better help families recognize and deal with emotional and mental health problems?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. Encourage employers to recognize the impact of work policies and practices on the mental health of their employees.

b. Religious institutions, appropriate community agencies, the educational, medical, and health fields should provide counseling, support, and education regarding family mental health areas.

Families: Challenges and Responsibilities

ISSUE 3 -- How can families identify, deal with, and prevent chemical dependency?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. Stronger enforcement of laws against dealers.

b. Encourage parents to promote progressive autonomy, i.e., self-respect, objective decision-making and responsibility.

c. Community agencies should provide training in parent-child communication and listening.

Program 1 - Encourage parents to be aware of how their chemical use, abuse, or dependency affects the whole family.

Program 2 - Encourage parents to:
- spend time with their children,
- demonstrate mutual respect,
- share their own values and beliefs,
- explain family heritage and identity.

d. Encourage families to seek professional help for individual members when necessary.

Priority #1 TOPIC I -- Work, Income, and Families

Families and Economic Well-Being

ISSUE 1 -- How do we create a work situation to be consistent with healthy family functioning?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. Recognize the economic and social value of the role of the homemaker as a career choice (male or female).

Program 1 - Explore an independent social security system for that role.

b. Business and government should seriously attempt to implement flex-time and job-sharing options where appropriate.

c. Business and government employee fringe benefits (child bearing/ rearing leave, health leave, etc.) should be supportive of "family".

Families and Economic Well-Being

ISSUE 2 -- How do we curb inflationary effects on families?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. Government, the private sector, and families should curb waste.

b. Government, business, and families should provide incentives to achieve energy efficiency.

c. The federal government should balance the budget.

d. The federal government should establish wage-price controls.

Families and Economic Well-Being

ISSUE 3 -- How can the tax structure be changed to be supportive of families?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. Permit married persons to file separate income tax returns and be taxed according to the same rate as unmarried persons.

b. Re-structure the tax system to be supportive of small business and family farms.

Priority #9 TOPIC J -- Family Housing

Families and Human Needs

ISSUE 1 -- How can every community assure that there is adequate housing available at an affordable price for all people?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. It should be the policy of landlords who provide housing to families with children.

b. It should be the policy of each community to provide some barrier-free housing to the elderly and handicapped and to provide necessary maintenance of same.

c. There should be stricter enforcement of existing non-discrimination policies related to minorities and low income families.

Program 1 - Re-examine existing non-discrimination codes to determine the real intent.

d. Local officials should assume the responsibility for assessing the household conditions and housing assistance needs of low

and moderate income families and establishing realistic goals to meet those needs.

Program 1 - Cities should subsidize the building of family rental units.

Program 2 - A "fair share" of federal housing monies should be assigned solely for the production of family units.

Program 3 - Government agencies and lending institutions should make financing more available to the home buyer.

Program 4 - There should be tax breaks to encourage the remodelling and rehabilitation of existing housing.

Families and Major Institutions

ISSUE 2 -- How can we minimize the involuntary displacement of families and/or the negative effects of family displacement?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. Agencies should exercise more restraint in the right of eminent domain.

b. Local governing bodies should exert some control over the conversion of rental units into condominiums.

Program 1 - The landlord must provide the tenants with a "notice of intent" at least six months ahead of time.

c. Communities should provide for rehabilitation of housing units, paying particular attention to efforts for up-dating or complying with building codes.

d. Companies should minimize the transfer of families.

Families and Major Institutions

ISSUE 3 -- How can families creatively cope with changing housing patterns and life styles necessitated by rapidly escalating energy costs as well as depletion of the present natural resources?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. Government agencies and utility companies should provide public awareness programs on energy conservation.

b. Government should promote research on alternative sources of energy.

c. There should be innovating use of public and private buildings to conserve energy.

d. Architects and city planners should incorporate as many energy-saving ideas as possible, i.e., solar panels, underground construction, wind generators.

e. Public transporation should be encouraged as a means to conserve energy.

f. Local officials should investigate the possibilities of converting existing unused buildings into housing units.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
Religion, Moral Issues and Values	In what ways can we dimimish growth of cults and the effects of cults on families?	1. Congressional representatives should inform their constituents about reports and information available from Congressional hearings on cult activities 2. Information should be provided to young people about the tactics used by cults in recruiting members. 3. The government should continue to study the growth of cults.
Supportive Interventions and the Family Under Stress	In what ways can we support families in transition events such as death, dissolution, separation, remarriage, adoption?	(Topic D carried over from full group discussion and supported by full group.)
Work, Income and Families	How do we create a work situation to be consistent with healthy family functioning	Private employers should be encouraged to provide home day centers: -run by parent boards, -as close to work as possible, -with a home rather than classroom environment, -linked with existing licensed family day care centers and foster grandparent programs, -with a sliding fee scale, -at a no profit to sponsoring corporation

TOPICS	ISSUES
Work, Income & Families	--It should be the policy of Federal administrators to hire qualified supervisory personnel to act as role models in encouraging self-discipline and sound business principles in on-the-job training programs for minority groups. --It should be the policy of supervisory personnel in on-the-job training programs for minority groups to be accountable for and to be evaluated periodically in regard to program expenditures, production, and employee progress. --It should be the policy of the Department of Public Welfare to ensure that funds appropriated for minority child welfare are indeed used for the benefit of that child. --It should be the policy of the Federal supervisory administration handling grant funds to work closely with minority reservation administrators on periodic

audits, program evaluations, and personnel merit reviews to assure that financial appropriations are intelligently expended.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
D. Supportive Interventions and the Family Under Stress		- Federal and state policy make it possible for disabled people to work and still retain a portion of their disability benefits. - Media and others should be encouraged to portray disabled people as productive members of society.

Workshop A: Family and Children

This workshop identified problems and support systems which might help in the alleviation of some of the problems identified.

Problem: Alcoholism; problems faced by working mothers; adoptive parents and children; foster care for children; children with special problems; widows.

Support Systems: Alcoholics Anonymous, churches, and families. The feeling was that outside agencies such as welfare and youth courts were ineffective in handling many of the problems relating to children.

Concerns: The Church has not assumed its responsibility in the solution of many of the problems facing Mississippi families. The correction of many problems of Mississippi families is treatment of the source. We need to look at the problem from a Biblical basis to find the answer.

Workshop B: Family and the Economy

This workshop stressed the need for return to basic principles and teaching of management in the schools.

Problem: Inflation; affluence interfering with basic principles of the American way of life; too little planning in the schools for finances and money management.

Solution: A "grass roots level" stand against inflation must be taken with the possibility of looking at what other countries are doing to combat inflation. Although our country was founded on the belief in God, America left the teachings of Jesus Christ as we became more affluent. A return to basic beliefs in God is needed. There is also a need for good educational programs with particular emphasis on programs in financial planning and management of money beginning in the schools.

Concern: With inflation our way of life is changing and the American family has lost its connection with basic Biblical teachings. We as Americans need more help with financial planning and money management.

Workshop C: The Family and the Environment

This workshop dealt with threats to the American family from outside the structure of the family.

Problem: storage of radioactive nuclear waste in Mississippi; drugs; recreation for the citizens of the State of Mississippi; insecticides, herbicides are dangerous to health of our citizens; problems with low-income housing project facilities.

Solution: No storage of radioactive nuclear waste in parts of the country or in Mississippi. With federal aid the drug problem in our country should be eliminated. Large economic-environmental projects (i.e. Tenn-Tombigbee Waterway) should consider their finished product a positive addition to the environment with respect to recreational areas for families. Low-income housing projects should be provided with proper water, sewage and garbage disposal systems.

Concern: Concern was expressed for the safety and health of Mississippians with respect to agricultural products and the storage of radioactive nuclear waste. Concern with expanding drug problem and ineffective methods for its elimination. Not enough attention has been placed on the proper maintenance of low-income housing, and recreational facilities associated with large environmental projects.

Workshop D: Impact of the Government on Families

This workshop dealt with the need for government assistance to solve problems imposing on the American family.

Problem: Laws for drug pushers not strong enough; working parents and day-care facilities; not enough emphasis placed on education with moral values and drug awareness.

Solution: Stronger laws need to be provided which will punish the drug pusher. Day-care centers need to be provided to help the working parent and the family unit. More emphasis on education. Because of constant changes in our society, education must be a continuous thing. It must be provided for all of society on a variety of topics such as sex, morality and drug usage.

Concern: Not enough penalty for dealing drugs. The working parent needs help with the children so that they receive the proper care during working hours. Our society is changing so rapidly, education must be sought and be obtained to upgrade job skills.

Workshop E: The Family and the Law

This workshop dealt with problems caused by government interference in the family structure.

Problem: Parents not accepting responsibility; too much government (federal) intervention in the family; birth control too available, interference of the courts in the family unit; humanism in the schools.

Solution: Parents have the basic responsibility for rearing children and should take that initiative--not allowing the government to interfere unless parents are found unfit for that responsibility. Laws should be looked at that allow young girls to obtain birth control pills without parental consent (to avoid possible side effects which may not have been explained). The courts should not be allowed to set minor children against their parents. The government should not be the dictate of policy where child abuse is concerned because it seems to conflict with what parents call discipline. Less legal intervention in the school and school programs.

Concern: Too much government control (not local) in the schools. Too much government intervention in the family unit making it possible for children to obtain birth control counseling and products which may prove hazardous to their health and allows children to bring civil action against their parents. Courts also interfere with the administration of discipline within the home. Discipline should be allowed at home and in the school system; courts make this difficult. There should be more local control by the school boards and schools. Evolution and humanistic principles are being taught in the schools--instead of Biblical principles. There should be compulsory attendance in schools--law should be implemented and enforced. There is a need for state-supported kindergarten programs and laws addressing adoption related to minority and handicapped children. We need more local government--less federal government control.

Workshop F: The Family and Mass Media

Problem: Television; films and their topics; humanistic principles, government control on media.

Solution: We should try to stop the portrayal of family life in a detrimental manner. More control should be placed over those who market films so that they are sensitive to the needs of the family. Programs teaching humanistic values, sex, and nudity as well as evolution should be taken from the air. The government should relinquish control over the media to local agencies.

Concern: Television portrays family life in the worst possible situation. Too many shows relate marital problems and child abuse. The controlling agency over media should be encouraged to be more sensitive to families when marketing films. Concern expressed over sex and nudity in films shown. Shows like Captain Kangeroo should be taken from the air for teaching humanistic principles. Too much federal government control over the media.

Workshop G: The Family and Social Concerns

This workshop contributed notes that were meager and difficult to interpret. These interpretations may be incorrect.

Problem: Spread of homosexuality; inadequate youth counseling procedures

Solution: none suggested

Concern: Homosexuality is spreading as is atheistic humanism. Concern was expressed over youth counseling procedures--the way in which children are handled. The danger facing the American family is that it feels there is no threat from the outside--that the American family is alive and well. Group felt that now is the time for action--people are suffering while we are talking about it. The problem is not man-to-man, but man-to-God. "Faith in Christ--Love of God" should be priority to the President. People should get on their knees for answers.

Workshop H: Family and Spiritual Values

This workshop dealt with religious and moral values and their relationship to the family.

Problem: Religious values; value training; federal policies; laws interfering with value training.

Solution: None offered.

Concern: The feeling of the group was that the family is the place where our values are taught and held dear. Also, our values as a religious people affect family life. Our country was founded on Judeo-Christian values. The general concern of the group was that some policies and laws of our country seem to contradict these values.

Workshop I: Family and Changing Social Roles

This workshop was concerned with social problems and the family.

Problem: Tendency toward abolition of roles for men and women; ethics taught in schools; law reform for drug pushers, law offenders, juveniles; too much intervention by courts; lack of parental guidance; television; discipline in the home.

Solution: Take situation ethics out of the schools. Strengthen drug related laws and punishment for juveniles. Decrease court interference in the family structure.

Concern: Society has separate roles for men and women, and should have. There is a need for role models in parents for children. Schools should not teach ethics. They are teaching situation ethics; the parents need to teach children what is right and wrong. The children are taught at home, then taught differently at school--get situation ethics out of the schools. Child abuse affects home life. Criminal laws are too lenient for the offender. Penalties should be stiffer for the drug pusher and for juveniles. They need to be accountable for their actions at an early age. Should look at punishment and at rehabilitation. The family has been jeopardized by the courts. Family is not giving support and guidance to the children. They need to give that guidance. Television does not reflect society--it changes it. The parents need to be educated (not by the federal government) in disciplining their children.

Workshop J: Changing Family Patterns

This workshop dealt with changing values and external forces acting on the family unit.

Problem: Need attention to moral problems and issues; inflation; definition of family; democratic government; lack of personal relationship; diminished family relationship with God; government interference with families.

Solution: We need to pay attention to moral issues and encourage moral conviction. Must find effective program to combat government-caused inflation. Need working definition of the family. Should operate as a Republic, not as a democracy, for a Republic operates under God's laws. Children need to be instructed in logical consequences--they need to be taught that certain choices of actions bring about certain results. The government should stay out of family issues and concerns. Many problems being considered are charitable concerns not governmental. Society's problems should be addressed as abnormalities, not in the context of the family life.* Need to curtail permissiveness--detrimental to the child's welfare. Need guiding scripture for the country: "If you have done it to the least of these, you have done it unto Me."

*This statement was challenged: need clarification of definition of abnormal.

Concern: Considerations for solving problems involving the family should be for all people, not just for the poor. Objection was made to a panel of three humanists being chosen to speak to workshop group. The family should be defined as people created by God, related by blood, marriage (between two heterosexuals, a natural man and a natural woman), or by adoption. (Challenge that the definition is too narrow and should be broader). One serious problem with families is a lack of a personal relationship, and a family relationship with God.

MISSOURI

Topic:

CHILDREN AND PARENTS

Issue:

IN WHAT WAYS SHOULD PREPARATION FOR PARENTING BE PROVIDED?

Policy Recommendations:

IT SHOULD BE THE PUBLIC POLICY THAT ALL PERSONS BE PROVIDED WITH EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO MORE ADEQUATELY PREPARE THEM FOR PARENTHOOD.

Program Recommendations: Curricula be developed and instituted at graduated class levels for all students, which would provide educational opportunities in developing parenting skills in such areas as basic nutrition, cooking, sewing, child care, child development, family budgeting, money management, interpersonal relations, and related areas, with adult education education family life courses designed and implemented for persons who no longer fit into a classroom setting. Teachers be required to meet professional requirements and standards for teaching such subject matter content.

Strategy Recommendations:

Conference delegates and Conference follow-up staff mobilize the public and private sectors to garner support for the provision of parenting education opportunities to all persons.

Issue: IN WHAT WAYS CAN FAMILIES PROVIDING FOSTER CARE TO CHILDREN BE STRENGTHENED?

Policy Recommendations:

IT SHOULD BE THE POLICY OF THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS THAT FAMILIES PROVIDING FOSTER CARE TO CHILDREN BE STRENGTHENED AND ENHANCED THROUGH TRAINING, ANCILIARY SERVICE DELIVERY, AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND RECOGNITION.

Program Recommendations: Programs be developed and implemented to sensitize local communities to the needs and problems of families with children in foster care and of families providing foster care; to provide intensive training to both prospective and practicing foster families; to review and implement standards to support quality foster care; and to insure adequate compensation to foster families for care of children as well as the provision of anciliary services to help meet the physical and emotional needs of the children in care.

Strategy Recommendations:

Conference delegates and Conference follow-up staff mobilize the public and private sectors to advocate for quality foster care and to provide the support services to strengthen and enhance families providing foster care.

Issue:

IN WHAT WAYS CAN PARENT-CHILD RELATIONS BE STRENGTHENED?

Policy Recommendations:

IT SHOULD BE THE POLICY OF THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS THAT SERVICES BE AVAILABLE TO ALL FAMILY MEMBERS TO STRENGTHEN PARENT-CHILD RELATIONS AND THAT FUNDING BE EXPANDED TO ENABLE QUALIFIED PROVIDERS TO EXPAND THEIR SERVICES TO HELP MEET UNMET NEEDS.

Program Recommendations: Churches, schools, and other community agencies provide opportunities for parents and children to interact with each other on a consistent basis, with counseling services available on a fee, sliding fee, or no fee basis.

Strategy Recommendations:

Conference delegates and Conference follow-up staff should engage citizen groups and community organizations, including churches, schools, and social agencies, in developing and supporting programs which would strengthen parent-child relations, i. e., recreational programs, leisure time activities, counseling services, others.

Topic:

PREVENTIVE PROGRAMMING VS. CRISIS INTERVENTION

Issue:

IN WHAT WAYS CAN THE GOVERNMENT SHIFT FROM A CRISIS ORIENTATION EMPHASIS TO ONE OF PREVENTION IN PROGRAMS FOR FAMILIES WITH SPECIAL NEEDS?

Policy Recommendations:

IT SHOULD BE THE POLICY OF GOVERNMENT TO INSTITUTE PREVENTIVE PROGRAMS WHILE CONTINUING ESSENTIAL CRISIS-ORIENTED PROGRAMS TO ASSIST FAMILIES WITH SPECIAL NEEDS.

Program Recommendations: Services be instituted and funded adequately to promote prevention of crises in families which in turn require crisis-oriented services but which often are short-term and impact negatively on family life, with preventive programs to include providing in-home services for elderly intact families and families caring for elderly and handicapped members; permanency planning for children-at-risk; adoption subsidies for families willing to adopt but economically do not meet standards and regulations; foster care payments to natural families as well as to substitute families; implement fully the Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment program; enact and fund CHAP legislation; and adequate funding (Title XX) to private agencies for providing preventive services.

Strategy Recommendations:

Conference delegates and Conference follow-up staff mobilize elected and appointed officials and citizens and organizations at the community level to support the delivery of preventive services while continuing the appropriate and essential crisis-oriented services.

Topic:

EDUCATION

Issue:

IN WHAT WAYS SHOULD QUALITY LIFE-LONG EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ALL FAMILY MEMBERS, BEGINNING WITH PARENT-INFANT EDUCATION?

Policy Recommendations:

IT SHOULD BE THE PUBLIC POLICY THAT FUNDING SOURCES BE DEVELOPED FOR LIFE-LONG EDUCATION COMMENSURATE WITH PROGRAMS ESTABLISHED BY LAW AND/OR BY REGULATION; TO DEVELOP STANDARDS IN RELATION TO PUPIL/TEACHER/SUPPORT PERSONNEL RATIOS; AND TO MANDATE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF LOCAL CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEES TO ASSIST IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF LIFE-LONG EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

Program Recommendations: Public Law 94-561, the pre-school partnership program linking education of young children, parents, and secondary school students be funded fully; standards regulating pupil/teacher/support personnel ratios be enforced; and educational opportunities for all family members regardless of age be instituted.

Strategy Recommendations:

Conference delegates and Conference follow-up staff take the lead role in helping to educate citizens to understand the need for life-long education programs, to advocate with public officials for establishment and maintenance of such programs, and to identify and recruit human and financial resources - public and private - to support such programs.

Issue:

IN WHAT WAYS SHOULD HOME AND SCHOOL CONTRIBUTE TO QUALITY FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION?

Policy Recommendations:

IT SHOULD BE THE POLICY OF FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES TO PROVIDE HUMAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT AND PARENTING EDUCATION FOR ALL STUDENTS, K - 12, TO OFFER SUCH EDUCATION COURSES TO PARENTS TO ENCOURAGE FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION BEING PROVIDED IN THE HOME; AND TO REQUIRE PARENT INVOLVEMENT IN DEVELOPING AND APPROVING SEX EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

Program Recommendations: Family life skills be integrated into the total curriculum beginning at the pre-school level; pre-service and in-service training for those teaching family life education be provided; inter-generational life experiences with experiential opportunities tied to classroom learning be developed; and the involvement of churches and other community agencies be encouraged to enrich home and school family life education.

Strategy Recommendations:

Conference delegates and Conference follow-up staff mobilize citizen groups and community organizations to develop awareness programs, to establish citizens advisory groups for curriculum and program development, to encourage utilization of family service agencies where available in staff and program development, and to encourage schools and churches to make books, films, and other teaching aids available to parents.

Issue:

IN WHAT WAYS CAN BOTH PRIVATE AND PUBLIC EDUCATION BE SUPPORTED ADEQUATELY?

Policy Recommendations:

IT SHOULD BE THE POLICY OF THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND OF STATE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION COOPERATIVELY TO RESEARCH AND DETERMINE METHODS OF FUNDING EDUCATION PROGRAMS TO RELIEVE THE BURDEN OF THE PROPERTY TAX; TO INVESTIGATE OPTIONS AND RAMIFICATIONS OF TAX CREDITS, VOUCHERS, ETC., FOR FINANCING BOTH PRIVATE AND PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAMS: AND TO ASSESS SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION POLICIES AND THE APPROPRIATENESS OF EXISTING FUNDING.

Program Recommendations: Funding of alternative education programs by federal agencies, i. e., U. S. Department of Labor, be continued and expanded; federal and state funds be available to local schools for contracting with private agencies for programs for special groups whose educational needs cannot be met otherwise; efforts of private industry be expanded to provide training programs in conjunction with education systems; and full funding be authorized to implement P.L. 94-142.

Strategy Recommendations:

Conference delegates and Conference follow-up staff mobilize citizen groups and community organizations to make known to federal and state legislators their support of adequate financing of private and public education programs, and (work) business-industry-education councils be established and/or continued.

Topic:

COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE SERVICES

Issue:

IN WHAT WAYS SHOULD A COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH EDUCATION, PLANNING, AND DELIVERY SYSTEM BE ASSURED TO FAMILIES?

Policy Recommendations:

IT SHOULD BE THE PUBLIC POLICY THAT A COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE PROGRAM IS AVAILABLE TO RURAL AND URBAN FAMILIES, INCLUDING ALTERNATIVES TO INSTITUTIONALIZATION FOR THE SENILE, HANDICAPPED, OR MENTALLY ILL; CHILD HEALTH CARE SERVICES; PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE AS AN ILLNESS; HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO FIRST-TIME EXPECTANT MOTHERS: AND NUTRITION SERVICES TO CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS WITH JUNK FOOD BEING ELIMINATED FROM PUBLICLY-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS SERVING CHILDREN AND YOUTH.

Program Recommendations: Hospice program be developed by local communities for families with terminally ill members; the Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment for children of low-income families be implemented fully and the federal CHAP legislation be enacted and fully implemented; health care programs for pregnant adolescents be developed locally, including pre-and post-natal care; legislation be enacted for care of the mentally ill with psychotic disorders, similar to Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act; the selling of junk food on school premises be prohibited, with nutritional and appealing alternatives being provided; and a National Health Federation be established, composed of professional and non-professional representatives with knowledge of health care needs, to design and support the implementation of a comprehensive health education, planning and delivery system.

Strategy Recommendations:

Conference delegates and Conference follow-up staff mobilize citizen groups, community organizations, professional medical and health care groups, elected officials, and others to provide the initiative, support, and expertise to developing, implementing, and maintaining a comprehensive health care system, with special emphasis on health care needs of children, expectant mothers, elderly family members, substance abusers, the terminally ill, and the mentally ill.

Topic:

GOVERNMENT

Issue:

IN WHAT WAYS CAN THE IMPACT OF GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION ON FAMILY LIFE BE REDUCED WHILE AT THE SAME TIME STRENGTHENING FAMILY LIFE?

Policy Recommendations:

IT SHOULD BE THE POLICY OF GOVERNMENT TO REVIEW ALL POLICIES AND REGULATIONS IN THE AREAS OF EDUCATION, TAX POLICY, HEALTH, WELFARE, HOUSING, EMPLOYMENT, MEDIA, RECREATION, ETC., TOWARD THE END OF ELIMINATING THOSE POLICIES AND REGULATIONS IMPACTING NEGATIVELY ON FAMILY STABILITY, WITH A FAMILY IMPACT STATEMENT BEING REQUIRED FOR ALL LEGISLATION IMPACTING ON FAMILY LIFE, PRIOR TO ITS CONSIDERATION.

Program Recommendations: Elected and appointed officials pursue actively a course of eliminating policies and regulations negatively impacting on families, but creating or adding programs/policies/regulations that will have positive effects on families, with the private sector actively pursuing a strong role in strengthening family life through the support of local programs.

Strategy Recommendations:

Conference delegates and Conference follow-up staff mobilize citizens to work with appointed and elected officials, and with local community agency officials.

Issue:

IN WHAT WAYS WOULD A NATIONAL FAMILY POLICY ASSIST FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN TARGETING PROBLEMS AND SETTING PRIORITIES RELATING TO FAMILY LIFE?

Policy Recommendations:

IT SHOULD BE THE POLICY OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO DEVELOP A NATIONAL FAMILY POLICY WHICH ENCOURAGES AND SUPPORTS TRADITIONAL FAMILY LIFE WHILE ALLOWING FOR AND HELPING THE FAMILY IN ITS MANY FORMS.

Program Recommendations: A National Family Policy be developed by the U. S. Office on Families, utilizing information gained from the White House Conference on Families experiences, and a mechanism be devised by the Office for use by federal and state governments for analyzing the impact of proposed legislation/policies/regulations on families.

Strategy Recommendations:

Conference delegates and Conference follow-up staff mobilize community groups to support the concept of a National Family Policy statement, clearly recognizing that creating and implementing such a policy is not to have more governmental intervention in the family.

Topic:

CHILD CARE

Issue:

IN WHAT WAYS SHOULD THE NEEDS OF FAMILIES FOR APPROPRIATE CHILD CARE BE ADDRESSED FOR STRENGTHENING AND SUPPORTING FAMILY LIFE?

Policy Recommendations:

IT SHOULD BE THE PUBLIC POLICY THAT SUPPORT SYSTEMS BE AVAILABLE TO FAMILIES TO ENABLE A PARENT TO REMAIN IN THE HOME WHEN APPROPRIATE TO CARE FOR CHILDREN, BUT IN THE ABSENCE OF SUCH SUPPORT SYSTEMS, QUALITY CHILD (DAY) CARE, INCLUDING INFANT/TODDLER CARE, SHOULD BE AVAILABLE ON A 24-HOUR BASIS.

Program Recommendations: Establishment of a variety of quality child care options, including in homes and in schools, at work-sites and in public facilities, be encouraged and supported, recognizing the needs of both parents and the facilities, including sliding fee scales, staff training and development, appropriate wages for child care staff, child/staff ratio, and costs of physical facilities.

Strategy Recommendations:

Conference delegates and Conference follow-up staff mobilize parent and other citizen groups, community organizations, school officials, employers, unions, and others to help meet the needs for appropriate child care services.

Topic:

FAMILIES AND THE WORKPLACE

Issue:

IN WHAT WAYS SHOULD EMPLOYERS PROMOTE AND ENHANCE THE FAMILY LIFE OF THEIR EMPLOYEES?

Policy Recommendations:

IT SHOULD BE THE POLICY OF EMPLOYERS TO INSTITUTE DIVERSIFIED EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND CHILD CARE PROGRAMS FOR THEIR EMPLOYEES IN ORDER TO PROMOTE AND ENHANCE FAMILY LIFE.

Program Recommendations: Programs be instituted to meet special needs of employees by reason of family responsibilities, to include flexi-time, part-time employment, "shared position" opportunities, optional transfers, optional promotion opportunities, and fringe benefits of optional early retirement and services such as job counseling, recreation, health care, maternity and paternity leaves to help assure care of children especially in the early years, child care centers at job sites with policies to allow for appropriate visitation by parent employees during non-work times, i.e., lunch hour, rest break, and time for breast-feeding if that is choice of the mother.

Strategy Recommendations:

Conference delegates and Conference follow-up staff stimulate interest and commitment on the part of employers, including management and union officials, to promote and enhance the family life of employees by providing diversified employment opportunities and quality child care and other services recommended above.

Topic:

TAX STRUCTURE REFORM

Issue:

IN WHAT WAYS CAN THE TAX STRUCTURE BE MADE EQUITABLE FOR FAMILIES?

Policy Recommendations:

IT SHOULD BE THE POLICY OF FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO INSTITUTE TAX REFORMS.

Program Recommendations: Reforms be instituted to make the tax structure equitable for families by revising the inheritance tax; at least equalizing tax deductions for married and single employees; by increasing the amount deductible for child care costs and include costs for in-home or day care costs of elderly family members; provide tax incentives for homemakers who elect to remain in the home; institute or improve upon tax incentives to encourage the private sector to hire the handicapped, to provide child care facilities for employees, diversified employment opportunities, and other services which would strengthen the family life of employees.

Strategy Recommendations:

Conference delegates and Conference follow-up staff mobilize citizens-at-large and elected officials to bring about the necessary reforms.

Topic:

SPECIAL CHALLENGES

Issue:

WHAT SUPPORTS SHOULD BE PROVIDED TO FAMILIES WITH HANDICAPPED OR OTHERWISE SPECIAL MEMBERS?

Policy Recommendations:

IT SHOULD BE THE PUBLIC POLICY THAT FAMILIES WITH HANDICAPPED OR OTHERWISE SPECIAL MEMBERS RECEIVE SPECIAL SUPPORT SERVICES AS NEEDED TO HELP MAINTAIN FAMILY STABILITY.

Program Recommendations: Support services be designed and implemented for families with handicapped or otherwise handicapped members, including training programs and self-help groups for parents and family members; improvement and expansion of special education and vocational training programs; early childhood special education programs; after-school care, short-term care, and emergency care programs; special living arrangements for 17-20 year olds who cannot live at home with special emphasis on non-institutionalization where appropriate; and counseling services for all family members.

Strategy Recommendations:

Conference delegates and Conference follow-up staff mobilize parent groups, citizen groups, community organizations including churches, schools, service clubs, and elected officials to identify gaps in services and resources and to make recommendations; develop community awareness and support to implementing recommendations through advocacy group formation; and help to assure continuity of services through funding from both the public and private sectors.

Issue:

IN WHAT WAYS CAN DIVERSE FAMILY FORMS BE INTEGRATED INTO SOCIETY?

Policy Recommendations:

IT SHOULD BE THE POLICY OF THE PUBLIC SECTOR TO RECOGNIZE DIVERSE FORMS OF FAMILY LIFE IN THE DELIVERY OF SERVICES TO FAMILIES.

Program Recommendations: Services be designed, funded, and implemented to provide strength and support to non-traditional forms of families, including services to single parents, to divorced parents, and to divorced/remarried parents, such services to include child care, foster care, family assistance, counseling, surrogate family networks, and health care, with emphasis on the identification of special needs of adolescent parents.

Strategy Recommendations:

Conference delegates and Conference follow-up staff mobilize community resources, citizen groups, elected officials, and others to advocate for the provision of support services to non-traditional as well as to traditional families.

Topic:

INADEQUATE INCOME

Issue:

IN WHAT WAYS SHOULD THE GOVERNMENT BETTER ASSIST FAMILIES EXPERIENCING INCOMES INADEQUATE TO MEET ESSENTIAL DAILY NEEDS?

Policy Recommendations:

IT SHOULD BE THE POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT TO INSTITUTE PROGRAMS OF EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES, TAX REFORMS, RENT SUBSIDIES, AND OTHERS FOR FAMILIES OF MIDDLE TO LOW INCOME, WHO DO NOT QUALIFY FOR INCOME MAINTENANCE PROGRAMS.

Program Recommendations: Existing programs be extended or new ones developed to assist middle to low income families who are unable to meet the inflationary costs of daily essentials such as rent, food, clothing, housing, utilities, and medical care, such programs to include employment opportunities and training for employment in rural and urban areas for the underemployed and the marginally qualified family head; removal of sales tax on such essential items as food; income supplements to help defray utility costs; extension of winterization programs, others.

Strategy Recommendations:

Conference delegates and Conference follow-up staff mobilize elected and appointed officials and citizen and community organizations to support the delivery of such programs and services.

Topic:

ELDERLY FAMILY MEMBERS

Issue:

IN WHAT WAYS SHOULD A RANGE OF SERVICES AND OPTIONS BE PROVIDED TO ELDERLY FAMILY MEMBERS SO THAT THEIR LIVES WILL BE ENHANCED?

Policy Recommendations:

IT SHOULD BE THE PUBLIC POLICY THAT A RANGE OF SERVICES AND OPTIONS, INCLUDING HOUSING AND SUPPORT SYSTEMS WHICH PROVIDE DAY CARE, DAY TREATMENT, MEALS, TRANSPORTATION, COUNSELING, HEALTH SERVICES, AND ACTIVITY PROGRAMS, BE PROVIDED TO GIVE ELDERLY FAMILY MEMBERS A FREEDOM OF CHOICE AS TO LIVING ARRANGEMENTS TO ENHANCE THEIR LIVES AND TO MAXIMIZE THEIR POTENTIAL FOR FULL PARTICIPATION IN AND CONTRIBUTING TO FAMILY AND COMMUNITY LIFE.

Program Recommendations: Churches, schools, community organizations, social agencies, and the government provide a range of services and options though establishing and maintaining housing units for the elderly and for multi-generational families, and providing special support services including day care, meals, homemaker services, health and counseling services, and transportation.

Strategy Recommendations:

Conference delegates and Conference follow-up staff mobilize the elderly and other citizen groups and community organizations to take advantage of all public funds and programs and to recruit the private sector in providing care and services to enhance the lives of older persons and their families.

OHIO

Ohio submitted a list of issue questions which are on the following page. They will be sending in recommendations which will be available at the Minnepolis Conference.

STATE ISSUES

1. What can be done to reduce and eliminate domestic violence, child abuse, family stress and instability in the American Homes?

2. How can the declining moral value in the family be reversed?

3. How can resources be generated to provide parent and family education and promote family unity, communication, parenting skills and commitment to family responsibilities and discipline?

4. How can the responsibility for the education of children be shared among parents, teachers, and school systems to ensure quality of education and competency commensurate with ability of each child?

5. What policies will ensure economic securities and cut on the rate of inflation for the average American family?

6. How can government better serve the people without interfering and infringing on individual rights, parental rights and without having negative impact on families?

7. What can be done to diminish the abuse of drugs and alcohol among children and adults?

8. In what ways can the positive responsibilities of the media be utilized to support traditional moral values and eliminate the effect of pornography, violence, and crime in the media on morality and values?

9. How should the judicial system be improved to protect and enhance family functioning and make marriage laws uniform in all fifty states?

10. How should the social and supportive services delivery system be structured to enhance the Social functioning of families?

11. What policies will ensure respect and protection for all life, especially the elderly, the unborn child, and the expectant mother?

12. What can be done to assure the accessibility and availability of reasonably priced, quality and comprehensive health care to all families including appropriate treatment, preventive care, and adequate follow-up care?

13. What can be done to the economy and the system to reduce unemployment, under-employment as well as improve working conditions for the members of families who are able to work?

14. What policies and programs should be established to enable the elderly to continue functioning as productive members of our society, to encourage family care of the elderly, and to meet medical, financial and housing needs of the elderly?

15. What can be done to assure adequate and qualified child care facilities for infants/toddlers and before -and-after school care for children and to increase supervised time and recreational facilities for youth?

16. What programs and policies can be established to assist single parents and prevent teenage pregnancies and early marriages?

STATE ISSUES

17. How can communities be assured of resources, support systems, recreation facilities and an extension of the family concept into the community at large?

18. What policies will ensure the avaialbility of public transportation for families who need it to meet their social and medical needs?

19. How can parental rights with respect to discipline, education, and health care be protected?

20. What can be done to assure safe, sanitary, decent and otherwise adequate housing at an affordable cost?

TENNESSEEE

Major Topic Area I --FAMILIES AND ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Inflation

Tennesseans are concerned about inflation and its impact on families (01*).

Potential policy programs for implementation to address this concern, arranged in descending order of preference, are:

1. balancing the federal budget
2. teaching families to conserve and to do on less
3. tightening credit

Major Topic Area II --FAMILIES: CHALLENGES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Family Crises

Tennesseans are concerned about child/teenage pregancies (02*).

Potential policy programs for implementation to address this concern, arranged in descending order of preference, are:

1. sex education
2. parental discipline
3. educational programs instead of treatment programs

Tennesseans are concerned about the abuse of family members (07*).

Potential policy programs for implementation to address this concern, arranged in descending order of preference, are:

1. shelters for battered family members
2. preventative community support
3. wives being submissive to their husbands: husbands being responsible for their families

Marriage/Children and Parents

Tennesseans are concerned about enriching family life (04*).

Potential policy programs for implementation to address this concern, arranged in descending order of preference, are:

1. parenting education
2. communication skills training
3. programs such as Marriage Encounter

Tennesseans are concerned about family roles and/or structures (05*).

Potential policy programs for implementation to address this concern, arranged in descending order of preference, are:

1. programs that teach parenting skills
2.5. premarital education
2.5. living by the Bible

Major Topic Area III--FAMILIES AND HUMAN NEEDS

Education

Tennesseans are concerned about education (03*).

Potential policy programs for implementation to address this concern, arranged in descending order of preference, are:

1. back to basics
2. practical education (money management, etc.)
3. alternative education

Tennesseans are concerned about sex education and birth control (07*).

Potential policy programs for implementation to address this concern, arranged in descending order of preference, are:

1. sex education programs in the home
2. sex education programs in the schools
3. sex education programs in the churches

Child Care

Tennesseans are concerned about child care (07*).

Potential policy programs for implementation to address this concern, arranged in descending order of preference, are:

1. federally funded child care programs
2. community funded child care programs
3. mothers stay at home

Care of the Elderly

Tennesseans are concerned about services for the elderly (08*).

Potential policy programs for implementation to address this concern, arranged in descending order of preference, are:

1. federally funded programs for the elderly that will allow them to remain in their own homes
2. families assume the responsibility of care for their elderly family members
3. day care centers for the elderly

Major Topic Area IV --FAMILIES AND MAJOR INSTITUTIONS

Government--local, state, federal

Tennesseans are concerned about government spending as it relates to families (10.5*).

Potential policy programs for implementation to address this concern, arranged in descending order of preference, are:

1. balancing the federal budget
2. reorganize priorities
3. local control of programs

Tennesseans are concerned about federally funded social services (10.5*).

Potential policy programs for implementation to address this concern, arranged in descending order of preference, are:

1. work programs for families that receive welfare aid
2. change in the welfare system
3. more flexible guidelines for social services

*This parenthetical number indicates the rank order of the concern. The concerns are arranged from 1, the most significant, to 10.5, less significant.

WEST VIRGINIA*

Families and Economic Well-Being

Topic: Poverty

Issue: How can the limitations of poverty be diminished to allow family and individual development?

Policy Recommendations: (1) It should be the policy of government legislation and direction to develop and support efforts which will address needs of families in poverty in addition to financial assistance. (2) Every person should be guaranteed an opportunity for employment and continued support services as needed. (3) The local private sector should take an active roles as our 'brothers keeper'.

Program Recommendations: (1) Transportation should be made available, especially in rural areas. (2) Education to understand the economic system and how to function within it should be provided. (3) Practical family life education in schools should be mandated. (4) Education and training should be offered to families which focuses on skills needed for jobs available in their areas. (5) Public education to increase the awareness of services available to families and to remove the stigma of receiving assistance from welfare agencies should be required. (6) Legislation should give priority to child care services for working families. (7) State Supplements for SSI recipients should be instituted. (8) Support services above those already existing for senior citizens and additional financial aid should be implemented.

Strategy Recommendations: (1) Promote state legislation to provide financial supplements to SSI recipients. (2) Develop a plan of action with welfare recipient families in which clients should be participants, not recipients. (3) Promote the use of churches for day care. (4) Develop family cooperatives for day care. (5) Increase public education for the awareness of services available. (6) Promote legislation in areas of family education. (7) Require staff of social service agencies to be trained or re-trained to be more sensitive and responsive to the needs of families and to treat people with dignity.

Issue: What policies can be adopted/adapted to help strengthen the poor working family?

Policy Recommendations: (1) It should be public policy not to penalize the working poor. (2) Social service programs should consider actual spendable income in comparison to cost of living and inflation in setting income guidelines for eligibility for services. (3) It should be public policy to insure an equity of benefits and services for working and non-working poor families. (4) Public and private agencies should have responsibility to the total family and (Con't)

Policy Recommendations: (Con't) to restore and/or preserve the dignity of poor families.

Program Recommendations:(1) Public transportation should be available, especially in rural areas. (2) The tax structure should be reviewed and revised so as not to penalize the poor working family. (3) There should be a guaranteed minimum income, based on family size, for all families. (4) More funds should be made available for education and training for displaced homemakers and those others not able to find jobs. (5) Realize the spending of tax dollars to better meet needs of families.(Con't)

Program Recommendations:(Con't) (6) Day care services should be a national priority and available to all who need it. (7) There should be better coordination and cooperation among social services agencies, public and private, to avoid duplication of services. (8) There should be better monitoring and evaluation of all services provided to families.

Strategy Recommendations: (1) Legislation should be introduced which would meet policy and program recommendations. (2) Lobbying for legislation should be advocated. (3) Local coalitions should be formed to deal with identifying problems. (4) Public education and awareness efforts should be increased.

Families and Economic Well-Being

Topic: Employment

Issue: How should employment at a reasonable rate and under reasonable conditions be guaranteed to people willing to work in order to preserve and promote family life?

Policy Recommendations: (1) Economic policies should be developed which expand jobs in the private sector. (2) Government should be the employer only as a last resort. (3) Guarantted access to existing jobs and services should be required.

Program Recommendations:(1) Flexible means of evaluating credentials for job applicants should be developed. (2) Career planning in schools, beginning with early education and continuing into adulthood, should be available. (3) Coordination of employment services are needed. (4) Job training and counseling, regardless of race, sex, age, etc., should be made available. (5) Support systems should be made available and/or developed. (6) Communication and public information about job (Con't)

Program Recommendations: (Con't) training opportunities should be increased. (7) Family-centered alternative employment opportunities in rural areas should be promoted.

Strategy Recommendations: (1) CETA guidelines should be reviewed and revised to: (a) raise income guidelines; (b) address training monies to men/women in career changes; (c) review allocations spent in proportion to unemployment rates of protected classes. (2) Encourage a change in regulations concerning household composition and eligibility for employment services.(3) Contact schools and media to educate the public about economic issues. (4) Office of Economic Development should encourage self-help programs in rural areas concerning family-centered employment opportunities through existing services, e.g., 4H, Extension Services.

Issue: In what ways do current workplace policies, both expressed and unexpressed, infringe upon family structure?

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of the federal government and private industry to provide for: (a) Job sharing. (b) Part-time employment. (c) Flex-time. (d) Maternity/paternity benefits for adoptive parents. (e) Health insurance while unemployed.

Program Recommendations: (1) Job related stress should be reduced. (2) Existing laws concerning discrimination against race, sex, age and the handicapped should be enforced. (3) More career planning and training development should be mandated.

Strategy Recommendations: (1) Encourage employee involvement in decision making. (2) Recommend that incentives be provided for employers to implement benefits, such as tax incentives by government. (3) Recommend the adoption of employee incentives to increase productivity, such as merit increases, flex-time, and career training opportunities.

Families and Human Needs

Topic: Health

Issue: In what ways should the American family be able to obtain preventive health care and health education through various government, educational, and private agencies in order to prevent physical, mental, and emotional health problems that currently exist in families?

Policy Recommendations: Since health care is a right for all American families, the government should insure that this right is protected. In order to maintain, protect and promote the health of all American families, the government at all levels, in cooperation with the private sector, individuals and families, should promote preventive health care and health education systems that are available, affordable, accessible, high quality, and of sufficient quantity to meet total health needs of individuals (Con't)

Policy Recommendations: (Con't) and the family as a unit without abridging the rights of families to their own decisions.

Program Recommendations: Programs should be developed in the following areas: (a) Nutrition education for all parents, teachers and other staff, and children (beginning with pre-schoolers). (b) Health education to include sex education, family life education, and parent education. (c) Environmental health and safety. (d) Screening of the handicapped.

Strategy Recommendations: (1) Encourage insurance companies, via legislation, to support preventive education and care. (2) Encourage private and publicly supported media to become involved in preventive education. (3) Advocate renewal of Title X family planning legislation. (4) Request change of hospital visitation rules prohibiting children. (5) Encourage "sliding fee scale" clinics for low income families. (6) Advocate legislation to ban junk food advertising through the FCC. (7) Encourage, via legislation, public and private health insurance providers to support preventive education and reimbursement for preventive health care, including home-base care. (Con't)

Strategy Recommendations: (Con't) (8) USDA should tighten up competitive foods. (9) Strong environmental and occupational health legislation should be encouraged. (10) Funding, up front, for preventive care should be legislated. (11) More health maintainance organizations should be developed. (12) Physicians should be encouraged to practice in rural areas.

Issue: In what ways can the health care system provide prevention, education, treatment and support services for families in regard to their spiritual, mental and physical health from prenatal to elderly, regardless of income level or nature of problems?

Policy Recommendations: In order to promote and protect the health and well-being of American families and to prevent disease and illness, government at various levels, the private and religious sectors, the families themselves, and the news media should ensure that a health system is in place that will meet the mental, physical, emotional, recreational and educational health needs of families, regardless of socioeconomic status, age, race or place of residence. Such a system must (Con't)

Policy Recommendations: (Con't) provide equal access to available, affordable, and non-duplicative care.

Program Recommendations: (1) Nutritional services are important to obtain the goal of preventive education and treatment. (2) More health awareness programs are needed, including education, prevention, self-help and self-care programs for all age groups. (3) Recreation programs should be initiated to enable families to stay healthy. (4) Health education and family life education should be mandated in schools. (5) Programs should be developed for abused families, including domestic or family violence programs.(C

Program Recommendations: (Con't) (6) Prenatal clinics, parenting and nutrition education clinics should be established in all counties of the state. (7) Develop programs on alcohol and drug abuse. (8) Programs should be developed on parental sex education so parents can teach their children. (9) Develop programs on child birth and improve existing childbirth programs. These program should permit bonding in the birth process. (10) Promote legislation which would permit parents to stay (Con't)

Program Recommendations: (Con't) away from work when needed at home.

Strategy Recommendations: (1) Review available programs at federal, state and local levels to eliminate duplication and promote coordination of health services. (2) Promote, via legislation and regulation, the provision of third party coverage for health services such as nutrition services, physical therapy, and therapeutic recreation. (3) Develop food industry initiatives to support nutritions education at the point of purchase. (4) Promote continued support for governmental programs. (5) Develop health education curricula for teachers, medical schools and other trainings programs for health professionals, including emphasis on their roles in promoting the health of families and the early detection of potential family disruption through violence, emotional (Con't)

Strategy Recommendations: (Con't) abuse or major illness. (6) Encourage development of health education in schools that is set in the context of skills for living, including constructive relationship building and the importance of recreation as preventive force. (7) Urge hospitals and other health care promoters to include appropriate ancillary services which extend the capabilities of families to function, such as social, psychological and pastoral care services. (8) Urge governmental and private programs to expand home health aid to include all therapeutic aids appropriate for physical and mental disabilities. (9) Mandate the expansion of recreational facilities, professional staff and programs to all areas regardless of geographical (Con't)

Strategy Recommendations: (Con't) locations, with special attention to using school and other public and private facilities for extended hours.

Families and Human Needs

Topic: Housing

Issue: How can decent, safe and sanitary housing for all people in American be made available?

Policy Recommendations: A national policy should be developed that would address alternative housing, possible solar and other conservation measures, and have more financing available on a flexible basis for low and middle income families.

Program Recommendations: (1) HUD and FHA should educate people about available resources. (2) Social services should be mandated that support, not control, families in housing. (3) Expand HUD programs to develop reasonable programs for the elderly and handicapped. (4) Present programs and codes should be reviewed for impact on the family, including energy needs. (5) A program of education and advocacy should be developed focusing on variety of housing and alternate life styles, e.g. group homes for the (Con't)

Program Recommendations: (Con't) handicapped and aged, single and multi-family dwellings, rural and urban housing.

Strategy Recommendations: (1) Encourage the upgrading of the entire existing housing stock through better rehabilitation programs. (2) Advocate more and cheaper money for purchasing housing. (3) Encourage a national housing development fund for housing. (4) Enact laws that would require more control on rental properties. (5) Mandate strengthening and enforcement of landlord-tenant laws. (6) Study and examine the structures of new homes to meet energy conservation needs. (Con't)

Strategy Recommendations: (Con't) (7) Encourage broader social services for families in stabilizing family life. (8) Lobby all legislative bodies to make them aware of housing needs. (9) Provide information and referral sources to offer communication about available resources. (10) Encourage discussions and training at the local level to express housing needs for families.

Topic: Growth and Care of Child and Youth

Issue: In what ways can we fulfill or promote the need for parenting education, family life education, parent support groups, and community support groups for single parents?

Policy Recommendations: Majority: It should not be the policy of local, state, and federal governments to institute programs to support this issue. This should be left to the discretion of home, parents and individuals. Minority: The government should encourage the development of resources for parenting education, communication, family life education, parent support groups and community support groups for single parents through public, private and/or parochial resources.

Program Recommendations: (1) Parenting education in the public schools should begin no later than the fifth grade and should include courses in human growth and development. (2) School and community organizations should sponsor classes for parents (including single parents) in infant stimulation, parenting skills, and family life education. (3) Classes on parenting should be mandatory for public schools in grades 8,9,10,11, or 12. (4) Education should be provided to local private groups who (Con't)

Program Recommendations: (Con't) regulate themselves.

Strategy Recommendations: (1) Findings should be widely disseminated to the local media. (2) Concerned individuals are urged to write their Congressmen and Senators. (3) Conference follow-up staff should contact HEW and the Department of Education to inform them of recommendations.

Issue: In what ways can we provide support systems that can enable children to develop to their fullest and become responsible adults, including: changing roles of mothers, fathers and adults; protecting children against television programming and advertisement; promoting youth acceptance of responsibility through a clear understanding of life's various choices; and providing adult roles and functions as electives in school.

Policy Recommendations: (1) All schools receiving federal funding should be mandated to teach comprehensive adult/family life and reproductive life education. (2) Develop and expand supportive services to families as a unit to prevent disruption/dismantling during crisis. (3) The government and private sector should support whenever possible organic programs in the area of cultural enrichment, recreation, and viable community projects to preserve and enhance the ethnic and heritage understanding of youth in (Con't)

Policy Recommendations: (Con't) their own communities. (4) Existing agencies should expand their services to accomodate the needs of families; and where services are not available, funds should be appropriated to support the needed services, e.g. additional staff, more training, and salaries comensurate with training.

Program Recommendations: (1) Governmental policies should include: (a) comprehensive programs, K-12; (b) developmental and realistic approaches to sexuality and family life; (c) training for educators; (d) enhancement of parental awareness; (e) development of community based support; (f) use of existing agencies and expanded services. (2) Development of a curriculum based on a continum which will have broad based input from parents, educators, professionals and others with expertise in this and related areas.

Strategy Recommendations: (1) Recommend more advocates and counseling for children and youth within our existing institutions to prevent crisis and enable change with growth. (2) Encourage curriculum based on continum and input from variety of experts and parents. (3) Encourage mandatory curriculum for teacher certification and continuing in-service training. (4) Create community task forces which are representative of ideas in the community, including PTA. (Con't)

Strategy Recommendations: (Con't) (5) Within communities, encourage the development of the multiple-disciplinary team approach for the family between agencies to consolidate the ongoing supportive services. (6) Advertise all available services broadly and develop more means of contacting these organizations available to the family unit for their immediate use.

Issue: What can be done to strengthen the legal rights of children, such as preventing exploitation of children, eliminating prostitution and pornography exposure, and preventing child abuse/neglect?

Policy Recommendations: (1) Laws should mandate or enforce requirements that professionals be made to report child abuse/neglect. (2) Laws should allow agencies, courts, and law enforcement agencies to respond on behalf of the child. (3) Family disruptions and multiple placements should be prevented.

Topic: Family Crises

Issue: What policies can be implemented to effect change with the problem of family violence?

Policy Recommendations: Federal and state governments should support programs that address family violence and support persons in the family who are physically abused or are in fear of abuse.

Program Recommendations: Legislation should deal with direct funding of shelters for abused family members.

Strategy Recommendations: 1. All concerned individuals should write their congressmen and senators to support such legislation. 2) Support local efforts to educate people in regard to domestic violence. 3) The White House Conference on Families should support efforts of lobbying for this recommendation.

Issue: Shall government's role be supportive of family responsibilities in times of crisis or shall government's role be intrusive as an arbitrator or determiner of values and solutions?

Policy Recommendations: 1) Government policies should respect the liberty of parents and guardians to direct the upbringing and education of children under their control. 2) The government must do nothing to arrest a child from his/her home where, by the standards of common law, that child's "upbring and education" are being conducted without abuse of civil or criminal statutes. 3) The government must guarentee the right of the child to protection from criminal abuse at the hands of parents and guardians.

Program Recommendations: Policy recommendations 1, 2, and 3 above should be considered in all programs that impact families.

Strategy Recommendations: Review and reform public policies to reflect or include policy statements which advocate ongoing citizen participation in decisions about family policy.

Issue: What further support systems can be developed to help families prevent and/or cope with crisis?

Policy Recommendations: 1) A federal policy should be adopted which recognizes family developmental changes and the potential for crisis in each developmental level. 2) Parenting education should be available within communities. 3) Supportive services should be made available for displaced homemakers.

Program Recommendations: 1) The curriculum in school systems should be reexamined for focus on preparing individuals to function effectively in a family. 2) A forum should be developed for the examination and investigation of additional resources needed to alleviate the immediate needs of families in crisis. 3) Change laws so that the value of the homemaker is recognized by IRS, Social Security, Department of Labor, and state divorce codes.

Strategy Recommendations: 1) Interdisciplinary community education should be encouraged to implement programs in the following areas:a.information on the stages of family development; and (b) access to experimental groups on parenting, communication and problem-solving skills for the enhancement of family development. 2) Exert formal and informal influence on policy makers to recognize the state and value of homemakers.

Families and Major Institutions

Topic: Social Services

Issue: How can grass roots community-based activities be encouraged which provide support systems for families?

Policy Recommendations: It should be a national policy to encourage the formation and utilization of community support systems.

Program Recommendations: 1) IRS regulations concerning bartering of services should be changed. 2) Tax credits for volunteer expenses should be allowed. 3) Tax credits for providing money for support of family members should be allowed. 4) An educational program should be instituted at the community level which alerts citizens to the benefits and mechanics of support systems. 5) Assess and evaluate government regulations which may inhibit the activities of self-help groups and natural helping networks.

Strategy Recommendations: 1) Write to Congressmen to urge adoption of above as national policy. 2) Community Conferences should be held at the local level, involving individuals, local government and safety officials, to discuss the formation of support-systems. 3) Individuals should write to legislators to urge changes in tax laws. 4) Local media sources should be approached and utilized for developing public relations packages on support networks.

Issue: How can increased private sector involvement in the area of social services funding be achieved?

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of the federal and state governments to mandate increased private sector involvement in social services funding and decision making regarding programs and budgets.

Program Recommendations: 1) Federal and state laws should be enacted that allow for tax credits for individuals, corporations and organizations who give money to social services. 2) Federal and state governments should reassess tax laws regarding corporate land holdings with the resulting monies funneled into private and public social services.

Strategy Recommendations: 1) Individuals and coalitions should write to federal congresspeople to encourage passage of the Fisher-Conable Bill. 2) Individuals should contact other individuals and organizations to encourage their support. 3) Newspapers should be contacted and encouraged to do exposes on current tax structures. 4) Letters should be written to newspaper editors advocating that people go directly to corporations for social service needs.

Issue: How can additional or expanded preventive-oriented social services be made available to families?

Policy Recommendations: State and local governments should mandate the expansion of prevention oriented programs and provide increased funding.

Program Recommendations: Legislation should be enacted which places additional emphasis on programs and funding with a prevention orientation.

Strategy Recommendations: Individuals should write to their congresspeople at both the state and federal levels urging the development and adoption of mandates for increased prevention programs and funding.

Families and Human Needs

Topic: Child Care

Issue: How should quality child care facilities and programs, such as day care, before and after school care, foster care, exceptional programs, urban and rural programs, and 24 hour care, be increased?

Policy Recommendations: 1) It should be policy of the Federal government to encourage development of facilities and comprehensive child development programs. 2) It should be the policy of the Department of Welfare to give single parents the option of staying home with the family.

Program Recommendations: 1) Establish a comprehensive child care program with federal funding and maximum interagency planning, and with regulation and control at local and state levels. 2) Child care boards should be established at local levels, including parents and consumers, to determine needs. 3) Revise regulations to permit new care facilities, lower standards and the encouragement of home-based facilities.

Strategy Recommendations: 1) Appeals should be made to community resources, including industry, to provide facilities and child care programs. 2) Encourage use of existing buildings and build when necessary for child care programs. 3) Recommend a raise in pay for child care employees. 4) To improve quality, additional services should be provided, e.g. health, education, enrichment, and screening for pre-schoolers.

Issue: How can we encourage the expansion of quality child care services to provide a variety of options, including all age groups, all times of day and year, rural/urban, and drop-in situations?

Policy Recommendations: 1) Child care standards governing health, fire, personnel and program should be revised to provide more flexibility to programs. 2) Funding should be made available to expand and begin child care programs. 3) West Virginia Department of Welfare should review foster care policies to provide greater flexibility. 4) Business and government should develop policy which establishes sick leave for parents of sick children. Continued on next page

Cont'd.

Policy Recommendations: 5) State schools should be mandated to offer space in the schools after hours for special programs.

Program Recommendations: 1) State agencies and Welfare Departments should re-evaluate standards. 2) Revise Title XX funding upward to include monies to pay for day care for middle class families. 3) Seek local resources for funding. 4) Provide start-up funds for new centers. 5) Provide tax exemptions to businesses for child care. 6) Change tax exemptions to allow parents to stay home. 7) Increase tax exemptions for child care for those parents choosing to work. 8) Recommend that the Welfare Department review the standards to implement no-fault foster care and professional foster care. Cont'd

Program Recommendations: Cont'd. 9) Investigate mechanisms for implementing policies. 10) County school boards should be requested to investigate possibilities of using space for after school programs.

Strategy Recommendations: 1) Increase public education on issues. 2) Create public advocacy groups for children. 3) Encourage families to contact state and local government. 4) Encourage public meetings to create plans at local levels. 5) Encourage youth education programs in schools to train people to implement child care programs. 6) Encourage utilization of local facilities, e.g. churches and businesses, for child care facilities.

Families: Challenges and Responsibilities

Topic: Growth and Care of Adult and Aged

Issue: In what ways can society promote an environment which supports and encourages the dignity of older adults?

119

Policy Recommendations: Any actions which encourage behaviors that decrease deteriation should take precedence over actions after the fact. Prevention shall take priority over remediation.

Program Recommendations: 1) Welfare and Medicare regulations should be amended to support care within the home and by the family. 2) Regulatory agencies should refocus attention to support the policy statement, e.g., insurance coverage for home care services.

Strategy Recommendations: 1) Encourage adoption of curriculum (K-12) that emphasizes the entire whole life cycle of the individual human being and family structure. 2) Contact legislators and existing agencies to bring about suggested changes. 3) This workshop requests the Conference Follow-up Staff to inform membership of any known adoption or implementation of these recommendations.

Issue: How can demands on family providers responsible for care of both older and younger members be met?

Policy Recommendations: The family provider needs to be able to become better informed about support services and resources available. There is a need to get information on existing help systems to those who need them.

Program Recommendations: 1) A nationally uniform telephone number for help and resources should be adopted. It could be answered locally, e.g., 411. 2) Publicity regarding the telephone number should be widely available.

Strategy Recommendations: 1) Program recommendations should be endorsed by the National White House Conference on Families. 2) The President and Congress should be asked to require implementation. 3) Citizens should be urged to write to Congress and advocate passage of necessary legislation.

Families and Institutions

Topic: What is a Family?

Issue: In what ways can we helpfully instruct our government to refrain from funding immorality such as abortion on demand, cohabitation, homosexuality and communal living and keep the government from interfering with parent responsibility for rearing their own children?

Policy Recommendations: The Family Protection Act should be passed.

Issue: By what criteria will the public community recognize and/or determine which persons are to be considered families for the sake of public policy?

Policy Recommendations: The existing legal framework for identifying families should remain.

Issue: What are the parental rights concerning their children as to education, disciplines, etc.

Policy Recommendations: Laws detrimental to the family should be reviewed.

Housing	Special housing problems of the Black family	1. Discrimination should be stopped. 2. Decent housing and housing maintenance should be a priority. 3. High rental costs should be examined. 4. Land and homes of Black families should not be lost through taxation.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
Employment	High umeployment rate among Black families	1. Strengthened job opportunities should be available. 2. Parenting classes should be offered in the school system to address problems faced by low-income families. 3. Government programs should be expanded to respond to society's isolated families, e.g. rural low-income.
Education	Unmet educational needs of the Black population	1. Multi-cultural non-sexist education should be adopted to provide positive role models for minorities and women. 2. Adequate counselling services for Black youths should be available. 3. Education related to the judicial system should be provided. 4. Communication about funding sources and grants should be increased

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
Social Services	Social service programs for Black families	1. Funds for services which support family income, job and training programs should not be cut. 2. Quality child care and youth recreation should be supported.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
Education	Parents Rights	1. The family should not be undermined in its efforts to educate offspring in the philosophy of the parents' choice.
Health	Adequately addressing the most pressing medical problems of black families	1. Health agencies and medical practioners should give special attention to problems such as high blood pressure, tuberculosis, diabetes, sickle-cell anemia, and alcohol and drug addiction in Black families. 2. Experimentations on Black families should be prohibited. 3. First-class medical treatment should be available to Black families at a reasonable cost. 4. Sickle-cell anemia and other problems should be treated and attempts should be made to find cures, without use of genetic screening. 5. Forced sterilization should be prohibited and the funding channeled toward medical social services.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
Law	Special legal problems of Black families	1. The number of Blacks in the legal system should be increased, e.g. law schools, judges and juries.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
What is a Family?	Definition of a Family	• Majority Opinion A family consists of a person or groups of persons who are related by blood, marriage, adoption, or legal custody.

WISCONSIN

FAMILIES: CHALLENGES AND RESPONSIBILIES

Topic: Respect for Diverse Families

Issue: In what ways can acceptance or tolerance of diverse family forms, roles values and cultural differences be promoted in ways that will allow and encourage families and communities to work together on shared concerns ?

Policy Recommendations: 1- It should be the policy local,state and national government to eliminate laws which descriminate against traditional or diverse families.
2- It should be the policy of local, state and national government to sensitize public agencies to special needs and strengths of diverse families.
3- It should be the policy of local,state and national government to encourage diverse family imput in policy formulation and review

Program Recommendations:
1- Identify underlying assumptions/values that are reflected in public policies and assess their impact on diverse families
2- Encourage self worth programs.
3- Initiate local programs to recognize and honor cultural groups in the community

Strategy Recommendations:
1- Initiate weekly family discussions within and between families
2- Stress families spiritual strengths and set aside weekly "special time" for family to improve self esteem.

FAMILIES AND ECONOMIC WELL BEING

Topic: Integration of Workplace and Family

Issue: In what ways can employment policies be developed by employer/employee groups to reflect the needs of families ?

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of the Federal, State and local governments to institute family sensitive employment practices and encourage such practices by private sector employers.

Program Recommendations: 1- Ammend employment practices to include flextime,daycare and other alternative family oriented employment practices.
2- Encourage integration of DayCare on or near work sites
3- Publicize and exchange information on innovative family sensitive employment practices.
4- Establish programs to validate life experience skills and maximize job training

Strategy Recommendations:

1- Conduct needs assessment survey to identify and document impact and need for day care, job sharing, flextime and other work policies including sick leave, maternity/paternity leave, transportation etc. that affect worker/family productivity
2- Develop and diseminate information and research on flextime and other family sensitive employment practices to employers and unions
3- Make family issues subjects for consideration in union contract negotiations

Families and Human Need

Topic: Expanding Family Education

Issue: In what ways can families' abilities to improve self support and cope with life style issues be improved ?

Policy Recommendations: 1- It should be the policy of Local and State educational agencies to develop integrated Family life curriculum reflecting diverse family imput.
2-It should be the policy of State and Local educational agencies to increase programs that can enhance family relationships, communication,parenting and crisis coping skills and acceptance of diverse family systems, cultural and ethnic backgrounds

Program Recommendations:

1- Increase Parent Effectiveness Training in High Schools
2- Educate for Wellness at transitional stages in life
3- Create Neighborhood Family Skills banks to aid with crisis prevention/education
4- Develop classes for families including parents and students
5- Offer multi cultural family education

Strategy Recommendations:

1- Publicize importance of family as resource
2- Promote local family conferences
3- Attend Board of Education meetings
4- Encourage industry to provide parenting programs

Families and Major Institutions

Topic: Family and Community interaction

Issue: In what ways can grassroot family networks be developed and sustained to strengthen family involvement/imput in community decisions ?

Policy Recommendations: 1 - It should be the policy of local and State government to establish and publicize processes for regular access and community involvement in decisions affecting families.

Program Recommendations:

1- Organize neighborhood coalitions and community meetings to assess and speak for family concerns
2- Establish economic survival workshops for families
3- More family/community activities centered around schools to inform/organize families

Strategy Recommendations:

1- Organize neighborhood /community self help network and directory
2- Increase regular communications between families/schools and community
3- Develop coalitions for action around shared family concerns
4- Establish or expand people to people programs to increase understanding
5- Set up family information exchange systems
6- More shared activities within families and between families
7- More parental involvement in education and child care

Topic: Law and the Family

Issue: 1- In what ways can public laws/policies be made more sensitive to diverse family needs ?

2- In what ways can basic conflicts over family values, individual rights and government policies be resolved ?
3- In what ways can policies be developed to strengthen families ?

Policy Recommendations:

1- Increase local imput and control on public policy issues, education, pornography
2- Encourage regular family conferences at Congressional District level
3- Create grassroots family lobby
4- Develop family impact statements on pending legislation

Program Recommendations:

1- Eliminate discriminatory marriage tax
2- Make home mortgages/reduced interest loans available to moderate income families
3- Allow inheritance transfer of family farm property without confiscatory taxation
4- Continue local/State family conferences

Strategy Recommendations:

1- Involve families in electoral action/legislative research
2- Monitor legislation for family impact
3- Meet regulary with elected officials
4- Build coalition groups around family issues
5- Follow up conferences and continuing family advisory committees
6- Develop and sustain network of family/community contacts from conference

Topic: Families and Public/Media Awareness

Issue: 1- In what ways can public and media awareness of family strengths and needs be increased ?

2- In what ways can we sensitize media to increase public awareness of social and legislative issues affecting families and encourage citizen/family participation in public policy decision making at all levels recognizing diverse family values.

Policy Recommendations:

1- Celebrate family awareness week at local,State and national level.
2- It should be the policy of the media to present more balance in portraying families to include more family success stories
3- It should be the policy of state, local and national governments and the media to recognize the social and economic importance of homemakers (both male & female)

Program Recommendations:
1- Ask Governor to proclaim Family Awareness Week
2- Develop public information series on how families can participate in and effect decision making processes.
3- Include five minute Family Resource information segement on daily news broadcasts.

Strategy Recommendations:

1- Faise funds for TV programs that reflect family integrity
2- Meet wtih media,editors, program managers
3- Organize and publicize weekly family discussions
4- Develop"Sesame Street" type program on health and wellness
5- Use public service announcements to publicize family meetings/activities

FAMILIES AND HUMAN NEEDS

Topic: Maximizing Helping Services

Issue: 1- In what ways can existing services be better coordinated ?

2- In what ways can in home care options be strengthened ?

3- In what ways can self help and prevention efforts be promoted ?

Policy Recommendations:
1- Establish Community/Agency advisory committee to coordinate local/state/national efforts - Reflect coordination as priority in allocation of funds
2- Change State and federal tax policies and bureaucratic regulations to allow/promote non-institutional options for care of elderly, young and disabled
3- Allocate % of treatment funds for community based self help/prevention programs

Program Recommendations:
1- Develop comprehensive services directory
2- Provide training and support for families wishing to provide in home care for elderly, young or disabled
3- Develop incentives for increasing self help/prevention efforts

Strategy Recommendations:
1- Involve service "consumer" families on advisory committees
2- Publicize human and economic advantages of in home care
3- Increase community/government awareness of self help/prevention options thru media community meetings etc.